

CHILDREN AND EDUCATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MONDAY 15 JANUARY 2024
7.00 PM

Bourges/Viersen Room - Town Hall
Contact: Madia Afzal, Democratic Services Officer
Madia.afzal@peterborough.gov.uk, 01733 452509

AGENDA

Page No

- 1. Apologies for Absence**
- 2. Declarations of Interest and Whipping Declarations**

At this point Members must declare whether they have a disclosable pecuniary interest, or other interest, in any of the items on the agenda, unless it is already entered in the register of members' interests or is a "pending notification" that has been disclosed to the Solicitor to the Council. Members must also declare if they are subject to their party group whip in relation to any items under consideration.
- 3. Minutes of the Children and Education Scrutiny Meeting Held on 06 November 2023** **3 - 10**
- 4. Call In of any Cabinet, Cabinet Member or Key Officer Decisions**

The decision notice for each decision will bear the date on which it is published and will specify that the decision may then be implemented on the expiry of 3 working days after the publication of the decision (not including the date of publication), unless a request for call-in of the decision is received from any three Members of a Scrutiny Committee. If a request for call-in of a decision is received, implementation of the decision remains suspended for consideration by the relevant Scrutiny Committee.
- 5. Forward Plan of Executive Decisions** **11 - 28**
- 6. Annual report of Peterborough Virtual School for Children in Care** **29 - 70**

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7.	Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Safeguarding Children Partnership Board Annual Report 2022-23	71 - 100
8.	An Overview of Special Needs and Disabilities: Progress, Priorities and Challenges	101 - 106
9.	Committee Start Time Report 2024/2025	107 - 108
10.	Work Programme 2023/2024	109 - 114
11.	Date of Next Meeting - 11 March 2024	

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Committee Members:

Councillors: A Shaheed (Chair), Hemraj (Vice Chairperson), Allen, Asif, Cole, Fenner, S Lane, D Over, Rangzeb, B Rush and Skibsted

Substitutes: Councillors: A. Bond, Fox, Ray and Sabir

Further information about this meeting can be obtained from Madia Afzal on telephone on 01733 452509 or by email on: madia.afzal@peterborough.gov.uk

**MINUTES OF THE CHILDREN AND EDUCATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING
 HELD AT 7.00PM, ON
 MONDAY, 06 NOVEMBER 2023
 BOURGES/VIERSEN ROOMS, TOWN HALL, PETERBOROUGH**

<p>Committee Members Present: Shaheed (Chair), Hemraj (Vice-Chair), Allen, Asif, Cole, Fenner, Rangzeb, Rush, Skibsted and Warren.</p>

<p>Co-opted Members: Sameena Aziz, Peter French and Katie Howard.</p>

<p>Youth Councillors: Abigail Adebayo and Daisy Blakemore-Creetdon.</p>

Officers Present:	<p>Belinda Evans, Customer Services Manager Gary Jones, Interim Service Director for Children’s Social Care and Safeguarding Karen Dunleavy, Democratic Services Officer Madia Afzal, Democratic Services Officer</p>
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21. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Lane, Over, Councillor Warren was in attendance as a substitute, Co-opted Member Dr Andy Stone and John Gregg, Executive Director, Children and Young People’s Services.

22. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND WHIPPING DECLARATIONS

No declarations of interest were received.

23. MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 25 SEPTEMBER 2023

The minutes of the meeting held on 25 September 2023 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

24. CALL-IN OF ANY CABINET, CABINET MEMBER OR KEY OFFICER DECISION

None were received for this meeting.

25. FORWARD PLAN OF EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

The Democratic Services Officer introduced the report which included the latest version of the Council’s Forward Plan of Executive Decisions containing decisions that the Leader of the Council, the Cabinet or individual Cabinet Members would make during the forthcoming month. Members were invited to comment on the plan and where appropriate, identify any relevant areas for inclusion in the Committee’s Work Programme.

- Clarification on the delegated partnership agreement procuring independent advocacy services for children decision was sought (KEY/24APR23/02). The Interim Service Director for Children’s Social Care and Targeted Support agreed

to review the Forward Plan and provide the Committee with a briefing note to confirm the status of this item.

- Clarification on the young people home and community support decision was sought (KEY/28AUG23/07), with the Chair querying the uptake of the consultation and engagement via social media. Following a discussion with Democratic Services, the Chair's query was resolved.
- Cllr Allen queried whether the amendments to the Forward Plan could be circulated ahead of the meeting to give the Committee sufficient time to review any changes. The Committee were advised that the publication of the Forward Plan took place on a Friday and that it was standard practice for Members to receive any updates on Monday morning. However, it was noted that Democratic Services would endeavour to update Members at the earliest opportunity.

AGREED ACTIONS:

The Children and Education Scrutiny Committee considered the current Forward Plan of Executive Decisions and RESOLVED to note the report. The Committee also requested that Officers:

- Review the Forward Plan and provide the Committee with a briefing note confirm the status of the delegated partnership agreement procuring independent advocacy services for children decision (KEY/24APR23/02).
- Democratic Services to circulate any changes to the Forward Plan at the earliest opportunity and update Members via an email prior to the meeting.

26. ANNUAL CHILDREN'S SERVICES COMPLAINT REPORT

The Children and Education Scrutiny Committee received a report in relation to complaints under the Children Act 1989 complaints procedures for children and young people.

The report sought to provide the Committee with an update on the complaints from children in care and how these were being resolved.

The Customer Services Manager introduced the report and key points raised included:

- Members were advised that the volume of statutory complaints had fallen by a significant margin.
- There was an increase in complaints following the corporate process, this accounted for the aforementioned fall.
- There was an increase in the percentage of statutory complaints where fault was identified, and this impacted complaint escalation. However, Members were advised that this was low for the 2022-23 year.
- The increase in the percentage of complaints where managers had spoken with complainants was noted.
- Areas for improvement such as complaints being responded to within the statutory timescales were identified.
- In terms of the non-statutory social care complaints, the Committee were advised that these had increased for both family safeguarding and early help.
- It was noted that many of the education complaints for the 2022-23 pertained to special education needs and this was in line with the previous year's figures.
- It was recognised that 4/6 cases that were upheld at the Ombudsman pertained to children's services.

The Children and Education Scrutiny Committee debated the report and in summary, key points raised and responses to questions included:

- Clarification on page 39 of the report - the child in care Stage 1 table and the delays in obtaining a driving license was sought. The responsibilities of the social care team in ensuring that documents are progressed efficiently were detailed and the Committee were advised that in this case a delay was noted.
- Members sought further information on page 36 of the report - Stage 1 outcomes - why there had been a 20% increase in faults since 2021-22 and where these had derived from.
- Clarification on the number of upheld complaints was also sought. It was noted that mistakes had been made and rectified and the Committee were referred to the low escalation rate for the 2022-23 year.
- Members queried whether parents understood the procedural element to complaints. It was acknowledged that improvements could be made, especially in respect to the literature. However, the Committee were assured that young people had sufficient access to information.
- A question was raised on the advocacies under Page 38 of the report. The advocacy contract for young people was detailed and it was noted that parents and adults did not have access to the service for complaint handling.
- Members queried the advocacy support for parents and adults, whether they would benefit from assistance and whether the proposed community and religious support especially for minority groups had the potential to reduce complaints.
- It was acknowledged that improvements could be made in respect of the support for parents/adults.
- However, Members were advised that children's services were not obliged to offer advocacy services to adults. Moreover, the Committee were assured that this could be examined at a later stage if required.
- In terms of the legal advocacy, it was advised that parents had access to legal assistance during proceedings and their views were presented to the courts through legal advocacy.
- The role of the allocated social worker during this process was noted and the Committee were advised that social workers played a key role in terms of safeguarding and offering support to parents.
- Members were assured that parents were signposted to relevant support services.
- In terms of the outcome of the complaint with respect to the payment for adaptations to a disability vehicle and how the user gained access to funding, Members were provided with some background information including the upfront costs for the adaptations and the processes surrounding this complaint.
- In terms of the overall outcome, it was decided that the payment ought to be made to enable the foster carer to provide care for the child and it was noted that the carer was reimbursed for the costs.
- With the complaint stopping at stage 3 and not progressing to the Ombudsman, Members were assured that a sensible solution was found.
- With respect to the financial support for care leavers and whether young people were being adequately signposted, the Member's concerns were acknowledged, and it was noted that young people ought to be given every opportunity to thrive.
- Reference was also made to the pathway plans. The Committee were advised that pathway plans were specific to each individual and detailed their financial, skills and employment needs.
- The Committee were further advised that young people ought to raise their needs with the service area to prevent the leaving care complaints detailed on page 39 and 41 of the report from occurring again.
- It was recognised that the conversations with respect to housing options for carer leavers ought to be forward to a young person's 17th and a half birthday as opposed to their 18th birthday to prevent them becoming homeless and feeling let down by the service area.
- The Committee were assured that the volume of complaints from young people was low and that collaborative work with the housing team was underway. The

work sought to make young people aware of their post care options and rectify issues in respect to this area.

- Furthermore, it was noted that the Interim Service Director for Children's Social Care and Safeguarding had met with the Director of Housing and Communities to address these concerns in an effective manner.
- Clarification on 'out of time jurisdiction' listed under ineligible complaints on page 33 of the report was sought. In response, the criteria was detailed as well as the complaints specific to Peterborough.
- A co-opted Member sought clarification on statutory and corporate complaints and queried whether the language for parents and children was user friendly. The co-opted Member also requested information on the decline in complaints. Furthermore, the decrease in compliments was also queried.
- The statutory and corporate processes were outlined.
- In response to the terminology query, the Committee were assured that information was tailored to children and reference was made to the Momo app which enabled young people in care to log their complaints in an appropriate manner.
- With respect to the Co-opted Member's third query, the Officer could not provide a definitive answer. However, the Committee were advised that the reorganization of the service area including the changes to roles and responsibilities and the process of capturing complaints may explain the decrease.
- In terms of the investigations contract, Members were advised that cases had been placed on hold due to COVID-19 and the acquisition of investigators.
- Members were further advised that the service area was now up to date with these cases and where required, compensation had been provided.
- Clarification on Stage 2 investigations on page 37 of the report was sought. The timescales for Stage 2 were outlined as well as the instances in which timescales could be extended.
- In terms of compliments, the Committee were advised that these were kept on a central spreadsheet and communicated to the individuals in question.
- With regards to education complaints, it was advised that these were managed by head teachers as they did not fall under the council's remit for complaints handling and that schools had their own processes in place.
- Furthermore, the Committee were informed that the Director of Education would draw up a briefing note to provide further clarity on the matter.
- Members were advised that it was difficult for the authority to oversee the education complaints due to the fragmented nature of the education system.
- However, the Committee were assured that the desired information was available upon request.
- Members were also guided to foster strong working relationships with the Multi Academy Trust as this would enable them to access the information in respect of education complaints.
- The Ombudsman's consultation around the social care statutory complaints process was noted and the changes in relation to this process were highlighted.
- In terms of the partially upheld outcome, it was advised that this would cease to exist from April 2024

AGREED ACTIONS:

The Children and Education Scrutiny Committee considered the report and RESOLVED to:

1. Make recommendations for further scrutiny if deemed appropriate.

The Committee also requested that Officers:

- Provide the Committee with a briefing note to confirm the process of complaints for children in care/clarification on the complaints that fall within the schools/education remit.

27. CHILDREN SERVICES IMPROVEMENT BOARD ARRANGEMENTS

The Children and Education Scrutiny Committee received a report in relation to Children's Services Independent Improvement Board Arrangements further to the Department for Education's (DFE) Improvement Notice, dated 2 August 2023.

The report sought to provide the Committee with an update on Children's Services Improvement Board Arrangements.

The Interim Service Director for Children's Social Care and Safeguarding introduced the report and key points raised included:

- The developments in respect to the Improvement Board were outlined.
- The Committee were advised that the Board's terms of reference was detailed in appendix 1 of the report.
- Members were advised that the Board's first informal meeting took place on Wednesday, 8 November 2023 and that the frequency of subsequent meetings was to be determined by the independent chair.
- The purpose of the Children's Services Improvement Board was also outlined.

The Children and Education Scrutiny Committee debated the report and in summary, key points raised and responses to questions included:

- With respect to the outcome of the Ofsted/children's services inspection, it was advised that it was difficult to determine when the outcome would be received. However, the details of the inspection were outlined.
- In terms of further improvements, it was advised that these were to be determined by the independent chair.
- With the Ofsted report being published on 09 May 2023 and the notice being issued on 02 August 2023, the Committee queried why it had taken so long for the report to become before scrutiny.
- The Committee were assured that they had received updates on the Multi- Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) and Improvement Plan at previous Committee meetings.
- Members queried whether the Secretary of State had appointed an advisor to work in collaboration with social services. It was confirmed that the appointment was yet to be made.
- In terms of a follow-up on the Ofsted inspection, the Committee were assured that the service area would be looking to action the improvements as a matter of urgency.
- Furthermore, it was confirmed that any concerns surrounding progress would be dealt with at the Improvement Board.
- It was noted that the Ofsted report was presented to the scrutiny Committee in September.
- Members queried whether updates on its progress had been scheduled for the Committee. In response, it was confirmed that regular updates on the Board formed part of the recommendations and that these would be provided.
- It was acknowledged that Ofsted had raised concerns and identified two priority actions for the service area. However, Members were assured that the overall rating was good, and the two priority actions would be considered within the full review.
- It was confirmed that the Board would cease to exist should strong improvements be made and the Committee's role in respect of checks and balances was outlined.

- Youth Council representatives queried whether their voice could be included on the Improvement Board. The Interim Service Director for Children's Social Care and Safeguarding confirmed that he would follow this up with independent Chair.
- In terms of the appointment of the independent Chair, it was advised that leadership experience at a senior level would come into play when making such an appointment and that the successful individual would have to possess the relevant skills and experiences.

AGREED ACTIONS:

The Children and Education Scrutiny Committee considered the report and RESOLVED to:

1. Note and comment on the Children's Services Improvement Board Arrangements.
2. Consider items presented to the Children and Education Scrutiny Committee during 2023/2024 and makes recommendations on the future monitoring of these items where necessary.
3. Determines its priorities and approve the Children's Services Improvement Board Arrangements.
4. Notes the recommendations and consider the legal implications of the committee report.

The Committee also requested that Officers:

Provide the Committee (Youth Councillors) with an update on whether their voice can be included on the Improvement Board, arrangements to be confirmed with the independent Chair.

28. WORK PROGRAMME 2023/2024

The Democratic Services Officer presented the report which considered the relevant items presented in 2023/24 of the Children and Education Scrutiny Committee and looked at the work programme for the new municipal year 2023/24 to determine the Committees priorities.

- Discussions centred around the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Report.
- The Committee were advised that the report ought to be independent and not written by Chris Baird (Interim Director for Education) and Emma Harkin (Head of SEND and Inclusion).
- The Committee were further advised that something ought to be created for the new cohort of children starting in September and for this to be delivered to 3-4 years olds in a nursey setting.
- It was noted that extensive research had been conducted with organisations within the city and that a report on SEND in Peterborough had been drafted by Cllr Cole which had been circulated to members of the Committee.
- In terms of SEND provision for parents, it was highlighted that Peterborough ranked fourth last in the country.
- It was confirmed that parents did not understand the language around SEND.
- Thus, it was requested that a parent toolkit be developed.
- It was hoped that the parent toolkit would explain the different types of SEND and help parents to identify any special educational needs.

- It was further advised that the toolkit ought to be in plain simple language and ought to address cultural issues.
- In terms of the proposed independent report, the Committee were advised that the proposals ought to go in house before going independent and that work should be conducted with Special Educational Needs Coordinators (SENCOs) and the Early Years Team in the first instance.
- Cllr Cole's forthcoming meeting with Cllr Bisby and Emma Harking was noted.
- It was advised that the January report on SEND ought to incorporate views from SENCOs as well as parents and schools.
- Cllr Bisby mentioned that he had spoken with the Executive Director for Children's Services regarding the request and that further meetings had been scheduled.
- In terms of timescales, it was hoped that the above would be ready by January. However, the Committee were aware of time constraints and the impending Christmas break.
- It was re-emphasised that the above ought to be ready for the new cohort of children starting in September 2024, in plain simple English and multiple languages.

AGREED ACTIONS:

The Children and Education Scrutiny Committee considered the Work Programme for 2022/2023 and RESOLVED to note the report.

29. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was noted as being the 15th of January 2024.

CHAIR

Meeting started at 7.00pm and finished at 8:23pm

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CHILDREN AND EDUCATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM No. 5
15 JANUARY 2024	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:	Adesuwa Omoregie, Interim Director for Legal and Governance (Monitoring Officer)		
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Councillor Coles, Cabinet Member for Legal, Finance and Corporate Services		
Contact Officer(s):	Madia Afzal, Democratic Services Officer	Tel. 01733 452509	

FORWARD PLAN OF EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

RECOMMENDATIONS	
FROM: Democratic Services Officer	Deadline date: N/A
<p>It is recommended that the Children and Education Scrutiny Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Considers the current Forward Plan of Executive Decisions and identifies any relevant items for inclusion within their work programme or request further information. 	

1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

1.1 The report is presented to the Committee in accordance with the Terms of Reference as set out in section 2.2 of the report.

2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

2.1 This is a regular report to the Children and Education Scrutiny Committee outlining the content of the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions.

2.2 This report is for the Children and Education Scrutiny Committee to consider under its Terms of Reference No. Part 3, Section 4 - Overview and Scrutiny Functions, paragraph 3.3:

The Scrutiny Committees will:

(f) *Hold the Executive to account for the discharge of functions in the following ways:*

ii) *By scrutinising Key Decisions which the Executive is planning to take, as set out in the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions.*

3. TIMESCALES

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	NO	If yes, date for Cabinet meeting	N/A
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4. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

- 4.1 The latest version of the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions is attached at Appendix 1. The Forward Plan contains those Executive Decisions which the Leader of the Council believes that the Cabinet or individual Cabinet Member(s) can take and any new key decisions to be taken after **30 January 2024**.
- 4.2 The information in the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions provides the Committee with the opportunity of considering whether it wishes to seek to influence any of these executive decisions, or to request further information.
- 4.3 If the Committee wished to examine any of the executive decisions, consideration would need to be given as to how this could be accommodated within the work programme.
- 4.4 As the Forward Plan is published fortnightly any version of the Forward Plan published after dispatch of this agenda will be tabled at the meeting.

5. CONSULTATION

- 5.1 Details of any consultation on individual decisions are contained within the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions.

6. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT

- 6.1 After consideration of the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions the Committee may request further information on any Executive Decision that falls within the remit of the Committee.

7. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION

- 7.1 The report presented allows the Committee to fulfil the requirement to scrutinise Key Decisions which the Executive is planning to take, as set out in the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions in accordance with their terms of reference as set out in Part 3, Section 4 - Overview and Scrutiny Functions, paragraph 3.3.

8. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 8.1 N/A

9. IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

- 9.1 N/A

Legal Implications

- 9.2 N/A

10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

- 10.1 None

11. APPENDICES

- 11.1 Appendix 1 – Forward Plan of Executive Decisions

PETERBOROUGH CITY COUNCIL'S FORWARD PLAN OF EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

PUBLISHED: 02 JANUARY 2024

PART 1 – FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

KEY DECISIONS FROM 30 JANUARY 2024								
KEY DECISION REQUIRED	DECISION MAKER	DATE DECISION EXPECTED	RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	WARD	CONSULTATION	CONTACT DETAILS REPORT AUTHORS	DIRECTORATE	DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO THE DECISION SUBMITTED TO THE DECISION MAKER INCLUDING EXEMPT ANNEXES
None.								

PREVIOUSLY ADVERTISED KEY DECISIONS

KEY DECISION REQUIRED	DECISION MAKER	DATE DECISION EXPECTED	RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	WARD	CONSULTATION	CONTACT DETAILS / REPORT AUTHORS	DIRECTORATE	DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO THE DECISION SUBMITTED TO THE DECISION MAKER INCLUDING EXEMPT ANNEXES
1. PCC/CCC Delegation Agreement for jointly procured Floating Support service - KEY/27FEB23/08 - Approval of Delegation Arrangements to allow CCC to implement and manage this contract on behalf of PCC.	Cllr Saqib Farooq, Cabinet Member for Adults and Health	December 2023	Adults and Health Scrutiny Committee	All Wards	Feedback sought from existing customers, staff and external partners/stakeholders prior to commencing re-procurement	Sarah Croxford, Senior Commissioner (Accommodation), sarah.croxford@peterborough.gov.uk	Adults	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.
2. Delegation to Cambridgeshire County Council re. recommission of the Healthy Schools Support Service – KEY/13MAR23/01 "The Public Health Directorate are seeking to continue provision of the Healthy Schools Support Service for a further 19-month period, from 1st September 2023 - 31st March 2025. The service has been successfully operating across Peterborough and Cambridgeshire since 2018 at an annual value of £148,520 to Cambridgeshire and £58,680 to Peterborough. This new contract period will be used to provide officers sufficient time to review effectiveness, understand the evidence base and better evaluate the impact of current provision to inform future commissioning intentions. The total cost to PCC for this period will be £92,276.66."	Cllr Saqib Farooq, Cabinet Member for Adults and Health	December 2023	Adults and Health Scrutiny Committee	All Wards	A comprehensive consultation will be undertaken with service users, partners and key stakeholders as part of the required work needed to inform future commissioning intentions	Amy Hall, Children's Public Health Commissioning Manager, amy.hall@peterborough.gov.uk	Public Health	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.
3. PCC SEND and AP expenditure – KEY/3JUL23/01 Approvement to authorise the future expected spend through Cambridgeshire County Council's Children's External Placements Dynamic Purchasing System (PDPS) until 31st March 2024 with providers for Alternative Education Provision – SEND and AP and Inclusion Team.	Cllr Ray Bisby, Cabinet Member for Children's Services	December 2023	Children and Education Scrutiny Committee	All Wards	N/A	Anna Wahlandt - anna.wahlandt@cambridgeshire.gov.uk 07881 426870	Children and Young People's Service	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.
4. Draft Housing Strategy – KEY/3JUL23/04 Approval of draft Housing Strategy to commence public consultation	Cabinet	15 January 2024	Growth, Resources, And Communities Scrutiny Committee	All Wards	Internal consultation with key service stakeholders to inform development of the draft strategy. Public consultation with key external stakeholders and residents for 6 weeks once the draft is approved for consultation	Anne Keogh Housing Strategy and implementation Manager anne.keogh1@peterborough.gov.uk 07983343076	Place and Economy	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.

KEY DECISION REQUIRED		DECISION MAKER	DATE DECISION EXPECTED	RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	WARD	CONSULTATION	CONTACT DETAILS / REPORT AUTHORS	DIRECTORATE	DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO THE DECISION SUBMITTED TO THE DECISION MAKER INCLUDING EXEMPT ANNEXES
5.	Post-16 Framework for Alternative Education and Training – KEY/17JUL23/01 - Agreement for the Post-16 Framework for Alternative Education and Training to be able to call off this Framework which is Cambridgeshire led.	Cllr Ray Bisby, Cabinet Member for Children's Services	December 2023	Children and Education Scrutiny Committee	All wards	Family Voice, Young People representation groups (Access Champions), representatives of seldom heard groups	David Rhodes, Commissioning Manager, Email: david.rhodes@peterborough.gov.uk	Children and Young People's Service	Paper from Children and Young People's Committee in Cambridgeshire
6.	Medgen Nursing Services Limited - KEY/17JUL23/02 - Approval for spend on a young person's placement for nine months.	Cllr Ray Bisby, Cabinet Member for Children's Services	December 2023	Children and Education Scrutiny Committee	CENTRAL WARD	No other consultation sought.	Ros Anderson, ART Support Officer, Email: ros.anderson@cambridgeshire.gov.uk Tel: 01733 863986	Children and Young People's Services	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.
7.	Education IT System Award – KEY/20NOV23/01 To approve the award of the new IT system for Education Services.	Cllr Ray Bisby, Cabinet Member for Children's Services	December 2023	Children and Education Scrutiny Committee	N/A	N/A	Chris Stromberg Chris.Stromberg@cambridgeshire.gov.uk	Corporate Services	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.
8.	Peterborough Station Quarter LUF2 Funding - KEY/04DEC23/01 Authority to enter into grant funding agreements for the LUF2 funds with the CPCA and to delegate authority to award and enter into contracts.	Cabinet	11 March 2024	Growth, Resources and Scrutiny Committee	Central	CPCA	Karen Lockwood, Head of Regeneration Karen.lockwood@peterborough.gov.uk , 07825902794	Place and Economy	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.

KEY DECISION REQUIRED	DECISION MAKER	DATE DECISION EXPECTED	RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	WARD	CONSULTATION	CONTACT DETAILS / REPORT AUTHORS	DIRECTORATE	DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO THE DECISION SUBMITTED TO THE DECISION MAKER INCLUDING EXEMPT ANNEXES
<p>9. Award of Bikeability Contract for 2024/25 – KEY/04DEC23/04 Peterborough City Council has received funding from Active Travel England to deliver Bikeability cycle training for the year 2024/25. The existing contract with the current provider will end on 31st March 2024. Therefore, we seek approval to award contract (after completion of procurement exercise) to new provider to begin on 1st April 2024.</p>	<p>Cllr Gavin Eley, Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Climate Change</p>	<p>15 January 2024</p>	<p>Climate Change and Environment Scrutiny Committee</p>	<p>All wards</p>	<p>Will go to tender for the new contract and offer providers an opportunity to submit a bid which will be assessed.</p>	<p>Lewis Banks, Transport and Environment Manager, 01733 317465, Lewis.banks@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>Place and Economy</p>	<p>A Cabinet report will be submitted confirming the decision to be taken, background to the decision, scoring and outcome of the tender process, financial and legal implications.</p> <p>Exempt appendices will be submitted for the financial submissions on the contract award prices. By virtue of paragraph 3, information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).</p>
<p>10. CCTV Surveillance System Service - maintenance contract award – KEY/18DEC23/01 - Maintenance contract award by Peterborough City Council following a joint procurement of Peterborough City Council and Fenland District Council's CCTV Surveillance System whereby Fenland District Council delegate the function of this contract to Peterborough City Council to act as lead local authority.</p>	<p>Cllr Peter Hiller - Cabinet Member for Housing, Growth and Regeneration</p>	<p>May 2024</p>	<p>Growth, Resources, And Communities Scrutiny Committee</p>	<p>All wards.</p>	<p>Not required.</p>	<p>Aarron Locks, CCTV Shared Service Manager, Tel: 07894 913503, Email: aarron.locks@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>Place and Economy</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.</p>
<p>11. Healthy Child Programme recommissioning - KEY/18DEC23/02 - To agree the approach for the recommissioning of the Healthy Child Programme and the associated service specification.</p>	<p>Cabinet</p>	<p>11 March 2024</p>	<p>Children and Education Scrutiny Committee</p>	<p>All wards.</p>	<p>Local user voice will be picked up in the CYP JSNA that Public Health will be completing in a timeline parallel to this.</p>	<p>Raj Lakshman, consultant in Public Health, raj.lakshman@cambridgeshire.gov.uk</p>	<p>Public Health</p>	<p>As well as the main paper and appendices, we will also provide relevant links to needs assessments on Cambridgeshire and Peterborough insight.</p>
<p>12. Approval to Award. Peterborough Lifeline and Alarm Receiving Centre Contract – KEY/18DEC23/03 - Approval to award a contract after a successful full tender process for a commissioned provider for PCC to deliver Lifeline, connected telecare and Alarm Receiving Centre in Peterborough</p>	<p>Cllr Saqib Farooq - Cabinet Member for Adults and Health</p>	<p>18 December 2023</p>	<p>Adults and Health Scrutiny Committee</p>	<p>All wards.</p>	<p>None.</p>	<p>Micheil Wilson - Commissioning Manager Email: micheil.wilson@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>Adults</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.</p>

KEY DECISION REQUIRED	DECISION MAKER	DATE DECISION EXPECTED	RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	WARD	CONSULTATION	CONTACT DETAILS / REPORT AUTHORS	DIRECTORATE	DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO THE DECISION SUBMITTED TO THE DECISION MAKER INCLUDING EXEMPT ANNEXES
13. Approval on PCC's Home Care Spend through CCC's DPS 2024-27 - KEY/18DEC23/04 - The report seeks Cabinet approval on anticipated spend via Cambridgeshire County Council's Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) for Home and Community Support Services until 31st October 2027, as an alternative way to meet the assessed needs of people living in Peterborough.	Cabinet	12 February 2024	Adults and Health Scrutiny Committee	All wards.	Engagement and informal consultation undertaken to inform overall home care review, but not in relation to this specific decision.	Ayesha, McKechnie, Commissioning Manager, Tel: 07500 024742, Email: Ayesha.mckechnie@peterborough.gov.uk	Adults	Previous CMDNs, Homecare contract. It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.
14. Contract Award of Supported Accommodation Services for Young People in Care aged 16-18 Dynamic Purchasing System – KEY/01JAN24/01 - To award the Pseudo dynamic purchasing system for supported accommodation services for young people in care aged 16-18 years, for whom the authority has a statutory responsibility for, in line with the new Ofsted requirements and regulations for the sector.	Cabinet	12 February 2024	Children and Education Scrutiny Committee	All wards	None	Joanne Leggett, Commissioning Manager for Children in Care, Email: Joanne.leggett@peterborough.gov.uk	Adults	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.
15. Treatment of Dry Mixed Recycling - Services Contract - KEY/01JAN24/02 - Award of contract for haulage, processing and onward sale of dry mixed recycling.	Cllr Gavin Eley, Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Climate Change	01 May 2024	Climate Change and Environment Scrutiny Committee	All wards	None	Amy Nebel, Senior Waste and Recycling Officer, Email: Amy.nebel@peterborough.gov.uk	Place and Economy	Exempt appendices will be submitted for the financial submissions on the contract award prices. By virtue of paragraph 3, information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
16. Procurement of Multi Disciplinary Design Team for Vine Project – KEY/15JAN24/02 - Procurement of Multi Disciplinary Design Team for Vine Project	Cabinet	11 March 2024	Growth, Resources, And Communities Scrutiny Committee	Fletton & Stanground Ward and Central Ward	No additional consultation other than relevant internal and external stakeholder processes	Karen Lockwood, Head of Regeneration, Email: karen.lockwood@peterborough.gov.uk Tel: 07825 902794	Place & Economy	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.
17. To procure a contract for Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure - KEY/15JAN24/03 - The Council is working in partnership with the Combined Authority and Cambridgeshire County Council to procure a supplier who will roll out Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure from late 2024/25 onwards. Successful procurement and submission of a business case will also ensure that the Council receives grant funding to support the roll-out of chargers across Peterborough.	Cabinet	12 February 2024	Growth, Resources, And Communities Scrutiny Committee	All Wards	Future public consultation will be undertaken	Lewis banks, Transport & Environment Manager Tel: 01733 317465 Email: lewis.banks@peterborough.gov.uk	Place & Economy	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.

18.	Delivery of Regulatory Services on behalf of Rutland County Council - KEY/15JAN24/04 - Delivery of Food Safety, Health and Safety, Housing Standards, Licensing and Pollution Control services on behalf of Rutland County Council. This is a continuation of the current agreement that commenced in April 2016.	Councillor Elsey, Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Climate Change	31 March 2024	Growth, Resources, And Communities Scrutiny Committee	N/A	No additional consultation other than relevant internal and external stakeholder processes.	Peter Gell Head of Regulatory Services Tel: 07920160701 Email: peter.gell@peterborough.gov.uk	Place & Economy	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.
19.	Peterborough Highway Services annual capital programme of works – KEY/15JAN24/05 - Decision requesting approval to deliver the works using the existing Peterborough Highways Term Service Contract and the allocation of funding across the 4 programmes of work.	Councillor Elsey, Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Climate Change	March 2024	Growth, Resources, And Communities Scrutiny Committee	All Wards	Consultation will be undertaken for the individual packages of works identified in the works programme.	Amy Petrie, Principal programme and projects officer, amy.petrie@peterborough.gov.uk, 452272	Place & Economy	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.
20.	Delivery of Highways Major Schemes 2024/2025 through the existing Peterborough Highways Term Service Contract – KEY/15JAN24/06 - Recommendation to approve the delivery of the Highways Major schemes 2024/2025 programme of works through the existing Peterborough Highway Services Term Service Contract.	Councillor Elsey, Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Climate Change	March 2024	Growth, Resources, And Communities Scrutiny Committee	All Wards	Consultation will be undertaken prior to construction.	Amy Petrie, Principal programme and projects officer, amy.petrie@peterborough.gov.uk, 452272	Place & Economy	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.
21.	Approval of 5-year review of Highway Asset Management Policy documents - KEY/15JAN24/07 - Approval of 5-year review of Highway Asset Management Policy documents including Highway Asset Management Policy and Strategy, Highway Infrastructure Asset Management Plan, and Highway Maintenance Plan.	Councillor Elsey, Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Climate Change	January 2024	Growth, Resources, And Communities Scrutiny Committee	All Wards	Relevant internal and external stakeholder processes	Kevin Ekins, Asset and Performance Manager, PHS, Tel: 01733 453448, Email: kevin.ekins@peterborough.gov.uk	Place & Economy	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.

PART 2 – NOTICE OF INTENTION TO TAKE DECISIONS IN PRIVATE

DECISIONS TO BE TAKEN IN PRIVATE								
KEY DECISION REQUIRED	DECISION MAKER	DATE DECISION EXPECTED	RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	WARD	CONSULTATION	CONTACT DETAILS / REPORT AUTHORS	DIRECTORATE	DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO THE DECISION SUBMITTED TO THE DECISION MAKER INCLUDING EXEMPT ANNEXES
None.								

PREVIOUSLY ADVERTISED DECISIONS TO BE TAKEN IN PRIVATE								
KEY DECISION REQUIRED	DECISION MAKER	DATE DECISION EXPECTED	RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	WARD	CONSULTATION	CONTACT DETAILS / REPORT AUTHORS	DIRECTORATE	DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO THE DECISION SUBMITTED TO THE DECISION MAKER INCLUDING EXEMPT ANNEXES
1. Sale of Property at Lincoln Road – KEY/04DEC23/03 Sale of surplus property, individual sales exceeding £500,000.	Cabinet	11 March 2024	Growth, Resources and Communities Scrutiny Committee	North Ward	N/A.	Felicity Paddick Felicity.paddick@peterborough.gov.uk , 07801910971	Corporate Services	Exempt appendix 1, financial and personal details of a third party.
2. Locality Review Phase 1 Progress Update- KEY/15JAN24/01 - Outline the updates and progress of Phase 1 of the Locality Review following stakeholder engagement.	Cabinet	12 February 2023	Growth, Resources and Communities Scrutiny Committee	All Wards	Relevant internal and external stakeholders Scrutiny in October 2023 & Cabinet in November 2023 plus various consultation platforms	Felicity Paddick 07801 910971 felicity.paddick@peterborough.gov.uk	Corporate Services	It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published. Exempt appendix with financial data

PART 3 – NOTIFICATION OF NON-KEY DECISIONS

DECISIONS FROM JANUARY 2024								
<i>DECISION REQUIRED</i>	<i>DECISION MAKER</i>	<i>DATE DECISION EXPECTED</i>	<i>RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</i>	<i>WARD</i>	<i>CONSULTATION</i>	<i>CONTACT DETAILS / REPORT AUTHORS</i>	<i>DIRECTORATE</i>	<i>DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO THE DECISION SUBMITTED TO THE DECISION MAKER INCLUDING EXEMPT ANNEXES</i>
None.								

PREVIOUSLY ADVERTISED DECISIONS

DECISION REQUIRED	DECISION MAKER	DATE DECISION EXPECTED	RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	WARD	CONSULTATION	CONTACT DETAILS / REPORT AUTHORS	DIRECTORATE	DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO THE DECISION SUBMITTED TO THE DECISION MAKER INCLUDING EXEMPT ANNEXES
<p>1. Approval of the Peterborough Sufficiency Strategy Every top tier local authority is required to publish a sufficiency strategy. This must set out how we seek to avoid children coming into care through the provision of family support services, and identify steps that we are taking to ensure that we have sufficient placements for children in care in our area, so that as many children and young people in care can live locally, provided that this is in their best interests.</p>	<p>Cllr Ray Bisby, Cabinet Member for Children's Services</p>	<p>December 2023</p>	<p>Children and Education Scrutiny Committee</p>	<p>All Wards</p>	<p>There has been widespread consultation including with children and young people in care.</p>	<p>John Gregg John.gregg@pete.rborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>Children and Young People's Service</p>	<p>Scrutiny Report</p>
<p>2. Werrington Fields and Ken Stimpson Secondary School - Following a public meeting held on 20 September 2021 at Ken Stimpson School, a decision needs to be taken on whether or not to proceed with plans to erect a fence to enclose part of the school's playing fields. The area is currently open access to the public. The school has not been using the area for over two years due to concerns over the safeguarding risk to the young people attending the school.</p>	<p>Cllr Ray Bisby, Cabinet Member for Children's Services</p>	<p>December 2023</p>	<p>Children and Education Scrutiny Committee</p>	<p>Werrington</p>	<p>Public meeting held on 20 September 2021 at Ken Stimpson School. Prior to this, a detailed background information document was circulated to interested parties.</p>	<p>Chris Baird Chris.baird@pete.rborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>Children and Young People's Service</p>	<p>Cabinet Member Decision Notice, Background Information Document</p> <p>It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.</p>
<p>3. Approval to enter into a Section 75 Partnership Agreement with Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust This agreement will ensure the provision of CPFT mental health specialist working with mental health practitioners who are part of multiagency Family Safeguarding teams working as part of children's social care safeguarding teams.</p>	<p>Cllr Ray Bisby, Cabinet Member for Children's Services</p>	<p>December 2023</p>	<p>Children and Education Scrutiny Committee</p>	<p>All Wards</p>	<p>Relevant internal and external stakeholders</p>	<p>Helen Andrews, Children's Commissioning Manager helen.andrews@cambridgeshire.gov.uk</p>	<p>Adults</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any documents other than the report and relevant appendices to be published.</p>
<p>4. Falls Prevention Strategy - Falls Prevention Strategy Formal Approval</p>	<p>Cabinet</p>	<p>12 February 2024</p>	<p>Adults and Health Scrutiny Committee</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>Survey with service users of the fall's prevention service at CPFT</p>	<p>Helen Tunster, Senior Partnership Manager, Email: helen.tunster@cambridgeshire.gov.uk</p>	<p>Public Health</p>	<p>Paper and Falls Prevention Strategy document as an appendix.</p>

PART 4 – NOTIFICATION OF KEY DECISIONS TAKEN UNDER URGENCY PROCEDURES

<i>DECISION TAKEN</i>	<i>DECISION MAKER</i>	<i>DATE DECISION TAKEN</i>	<i>RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</i>	<i>WARD</i>	<i>CONSULTATION</i>	<i>CONTACT DETAILS / REPORT AUTHORS</i>	<i>DIRECTORATE</i>	<i>DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO THE DECISION SUBMITTED TO THE DECISION MAKER INCLUDING EXEMPT ANNEXES</i>
None.								

FORWARD PLAN

PART 1 – KEY DECISIONS

In the period commencing 28 clear days after the date of publication of this Plan, Peterborough City Council's Executive intends to take 'key decisions' on the issues set out below in **Part 1**. Key decisions relate to those executive decisions which are likely to result in the Council spending or saving money in excess of £500,000 and/or have a significant impact on two or more wards in Peterborough.

If the decision is to be taken by an individual Cabinet Member, the name of the Cabinet Member is shown against the decision, in addition to details of the Councillor's portfolio. If the decision is to be taken by the Cabinet, this too is shown against the decision and its members are as listed below:

Cllr Mohammed Farooq (Leader of the Council), Cllr Howard (Deputy Leader); Cllr Bisby; Cllr Elsey; Cllr Saqib Farooq and Cllr Hiller.

This Plan should be seen as an outline of the proposed decisions for the forthcoming month, and it will be updated on a fortnightly basis to reflect new key-decisions. Each new Plan supersedes the previous Plan and items may be carried over into forthcoming Plans. Any questions on specific issues included on the Plan should be included on the form which appears at the back of the Plan and submitted to philippa.turvey@peterborough.gov.uk, Democratic and Constitutional Services Manager, Legal and Governance Department, Town Hall, Bridge Street, PE1 1HG (fax 08702 388039). Alternatively, you can submit your views via e-mail to or by telephone on 01733 452460. For each decision a public report will be available from the Democratic Services Team one week before the decision is taken.

PART 2 – NOTICE OF INTENTION TO TAKE DECISION IN PRIVATE

Whilst most of the Executive's business at the Cabinet meetings listed in this Plan will be open to the public and media organisations to attend, there will be some business to be considered that contains, for example, confidential, commercially sensitive or personal information. In these circumstances the meeting may be held in private, and on the rare occasion this applies, notice will be given within **Part 2** of this document, 'notice of intention to hold meeting in private'. A further formal notice of the intention to hold the meeting, or part of it, in private, will also be given 28 clear days in advance of any private meeting in accordance with The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.

The Council invites members of the public to attend any of the meetings at which these decisions will be discussed (unless a notice of intention to hold the meeting in private has been given).

PART 3 – NOTIFICATION OF NON-KEY DECISIONS

For complete transparency relating to the work of the Executive, this Plan also includes an overview of non-key decisions to be taken by the Cabinet or individual Cabinet Members, these decisions are listed at **Part 3** and will be updated on a weekly basis.

You are entitled to view any documents listed on the Plan or obtain extracts from any documents listed or subsequently submitted to the decision maker prior to the decision being made, subject to any restrictions on disclosure. There is no charge for viewing the documents, although charges may be made for photocopying or postage. Documents listed on the notice and relevant documents subsequently being submitted can be requested from Democratic Services at email: democratic.services@peterborough.gov.uk.

All decisions will be posted on the Council's website: www.peterborough.gov.uk/executivedecisions. If you wish to make comments or representations regarding the 'key decisions' outlined in this Plan, please submit them to the Democratic and Constitutional Services Manager using the form attached. For your information, the contact details for the Council's various service departments are incorporated within this Plan.

DIRECTORATE RESPONSIBILITIES

Please note that all Directorates have been colour coded. Each decision will be colour coded in accordance with the below.

CORPORATE SERVICES DEPARTMENT Sand Martin House, Bittern Way, Fletton Quays, Peterborough, PE2 8TY

Financial and Resources

Internal Audit, Insurance and Investigations

Peterborough Serco Strategic Partnership (Business Support, Corporate Procurement, Business Transformation and Strategic Improvement, Customer Services, Shared Transactional Services)

Communications

Commercial & Property

Registration and Bereavement Services

Commercial & Property

Delivery and Transformation

Health & Safety

Human Resources & Workforce Development - (Business Relations, HR Policy and Rewards, Training and Development, Occupational Health and Workforce Development)

Digital, Data Analytics, Risk & IT Services

Transformation and Programme Management Office, Business Intelligence, Commercial, Strategy and Policy, Shared Services

Performance and Information (Performance Management, Systems Support Team)

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICE Sand Martin House, Bittern Way, Fletton Quays, Peterborough, PE2 8TY

Children's Services (Children's Social Care Operations, Children's Social Care Quality Assurance, Child Health, Clare Lodge (Operations), Access to Resources)

Education, (Special Educational Needs and Inclusion, School Improvement, City College Peterborough, Pupil Referral Units, Schools Infrastructure, Early Years and Quality Improvement)

ADULTS Sand Martin House, Bittern Way, Fletton Quays, Peterborough, PE2 8TY

Adult Services and Communities (Adult Social Care Operations, Adult Social Care and Quality Assurance, Adult Social Care Commissioning, Early Help – Adults, Children and Families, Housing and Health Improvement, Community and Safety Services, Offender Services, Safeguarding Boards – Adults and Children's)

Business Management and Commercial Operations (Commissioning)

LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE DEPARTMENT Sand Martin House, Bittern Way, Fletton Quays, Peterborough, PE2 8TY

Corporate Lawyers

Constitutional Services, (Democratic Services, Electoral Services, Executive and Members Services) - (Town Hall, Bridge Street, Peterborough, PE1 1HG)

Information Governance, (Freedom of Information and Data Protection)

PLACE AND ECONOMY DEPARTMENT Sand Martin House, Bittern Way, Fletton Quays, Peterborough, PE2 8TY

Development and Construction (Development Management, Planning Compliance, Building Control)

Planning Growth and Environment (Strategic Planning, Housing Strategy and Affordable Housing, Climate Change and Environment Capital, Natural and Built Environment)

Housing and Homelessness

Highways and Transport(Network Management, Highways Maintenance, Street Naming and Numbering, Street Lighting, Design and Adoption of Roads, Drainage and Flood Risk Management, Transport Policy and Sustainable Transport, Public Transport)

Employment and Skills

Community Safety

Regulatory Services

Emergency Resilience & Planning

(Markets and Street Trading, City Centre Management including Events, Regulatory Services, Parking Services, Vivacity Contract, CCTV and Out of Hours Calls)

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT Sand Martin House, Bittern Way, Fletton Quays, Peterborough, PE2 8TY

Health Protection, Health Improvements, Healthcare Public Health.

PETERBOROUGH CITY COUNCIL'S CABINET MEMBERS WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU

The Leader of Peterborough City Council is offering everyone a chance to comment or raise queries on the decisions highlighted on the Council's Forward Plan.

Your comments and queries can be submitted to the Council's Governance Team using the form overleaf, or alternatively by telephone or email. The Governance team will then liaise with the appropriate Cabinet Member and ensure that you receive a response. Members of the Cabinet, together with their areas of responsibility, are listed below:

Councillor Mohammed Farooq	Leader of the Council.
Councillor John Howard	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Corporate Governance and Finance.
Councillor Saqib Farooq	Cabinet Member for Adults and Health.
Councillor Ray Bisby	Cabinet Member for Children's Services.
Councillor Gavin Elsey	Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Climate Change.
Councillor Peter Hiller	Cabinet Member for Housing, Growth and Regeneration.

SUBMIT YOUR COMMENTS OR QUERIES TO PETERBOROUGH CITY COUNCIL'S CABINET

Your comment or query:

How can we contact you with a response?
(please include a telephone number, postal and/or e-mail address)

Name

Address

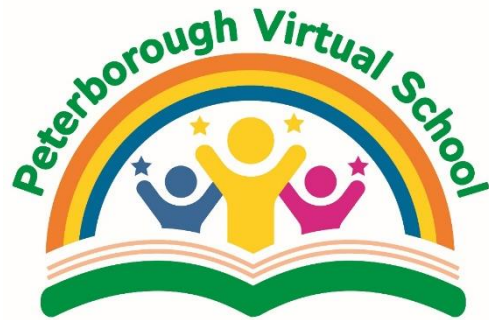
.....

Tel:

Email:

Who would you like to respond? (if left blank your comments will be referred to the relevant Cabinet Member)

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Annual Report

Peterborough Children in Care

Academic Year September 2022-August 2023

PVS (Peterborough Virtual School) Vision

To ensure all children in care receive a high quality, aspirational education which meets their holistic needs in a safe environment and relationally driven culture.

Guiding Principles

We believe that:

- the voice of the child/young person is of paramount importance
- all children and young people in our care should receive a high-quality, aspirational education
- all children and young people in our care should have an education that meets their holistic needs
- attuned connections are integral to the well-being of all children and young people in our care, resulting in reciprocal, trusting relationships
- effective liaison and integrated working with all key stakeholders is essential for person-centred planning

Contents

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1 Purpose of the report

The purpose of this report is to detail and evaluate the work undertaken by Peterborough Virtual School (PVS) for the academic year 2022-2023. Furthermore, it is to share the outcomes of the eligible cohort (children in the care of Peterborough City Council for a year or more as of March 2023).

1.1 Context

All local authorities in England have a statutory duty to promote the educational outcomes for children in its care wherever they live or are educated; the Virtual School Head Teacher is the lead officer in fulfilling these responsibilities. In Peterborough there is a team of education professionals supporting the Virtual School Head Teacher.

Peterborough Virtual School support children and young people in care between the ages of 2 and 18. The Virtual School brings together information about children and young people who are in the care of Peterborough as if they attend a single school.

Additionally, Peterborough Virtual School provide information and advice for children previously in care including those who have been adopted from care and those under special guardianship and child arrangement orders. Peterborough Virtual School are responsible for children previously in care attending a Peterborough school or education setting.

The Virtual School also has a non-statutory strategic leadership role for children who have or have had a social worker (in the last 6 years).

Peterborough Virtual School sits within the Education Directorate. The Virtual School Head reports to the Service Director for Education Services, the Education Scrutiny Committee and the Corporate Parenting Board.

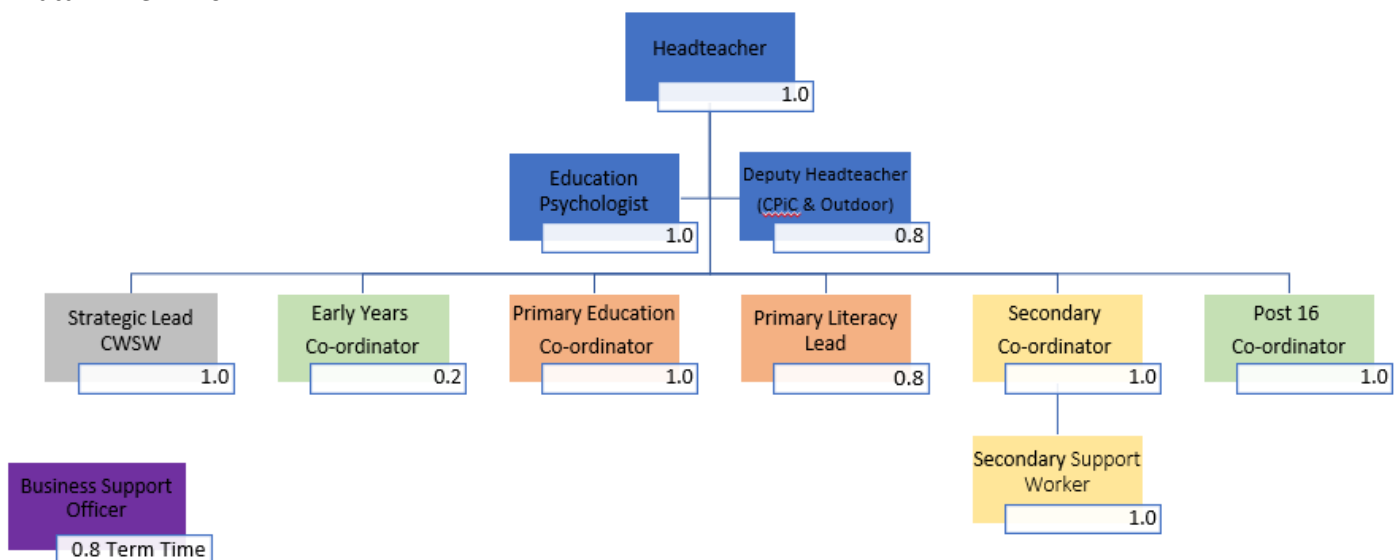
In June 2023, Children’s Services within Peterborough Local Authority decoupled from Cambridgeshire Local Authority. A permanent Director of Children’s Services was in post from July 2023.

2 Structure of the Virtual School

Peterborough Virtual School aims to achieve improvements to the educational outcomes of children and young people through a school support model. This allows for a small team, with sufficient influence and expertise, to improve outcomes through support and challenge to all education settings.

Throughout 2022-23 there was considerable change in the Virtual School team, not least the Virtual School Head Teacher announcing her plan to retire at the end of the academic year. Additionally, two other members of the team resigned during the Autumn term.

Autumn Term 2022:

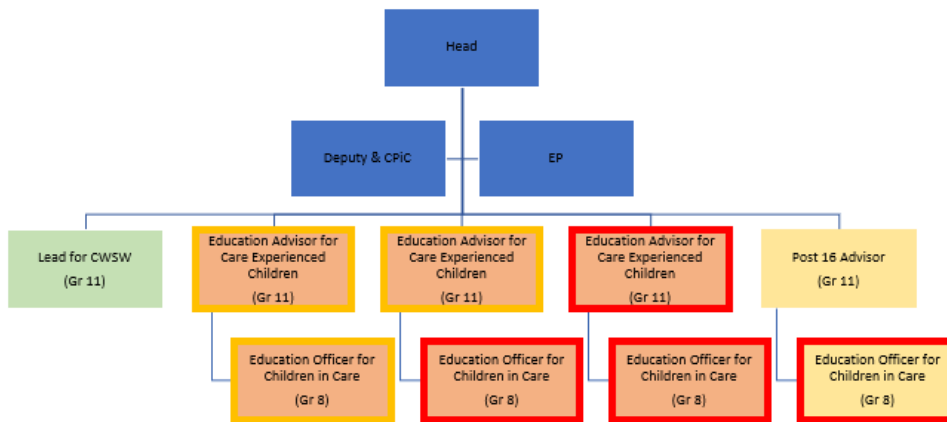


Data from academic year 22/23 showed a significant increase in the needs of Children in Care. To address this need and to move towards PVS being able to influence the policy, culture as well as practice of education settings, PVS identified the need to widen the lens of their support to focus on a more strategic, systemic way of working.

To enable strategic working, capacity within the team needed to be increased. An analysis of other Virtual Schools with comparable numbers of CiC showed an average number of 12 posts within Virtual Schools. At the start of 22/23, PVS had 9 staff members. Consequently, a consultation was undertaken to redesign the structure of the team and an extensive recruitment process was carried out. Four new posts were created. Six appointments were made; no vacancies were carried forward.

Following the resignation of the Primary Literacy Lead in the Autumn of 22, the decision was made to remove direct intervention teaching from the repertoire of PVS staff to focus on a more strategic way of working. Furthermore, the existing posts of age dependent co-ordinators were revised to become Education Advisors. The removal of age specific roles will enable improved continuity and consistency of support and being able to work strategically across groups of settings such as those within a Multi-Academy Trust.

July 2023:



It will be a priority of the incoming Virtual School Head Teacher to lead a fully staffed, new team in the establishment of a new strategic model of working which is designed to have systemic influence across policy, practice and culture in educational settings. It is intended that the model will extend the Virtual School's ability to work preventatively. Aspirational pathways will be designed which maximise educational outcomes and lead to successful and fulfilled lives. There will be a renewed focus on empowering key partners.

DRAFT

3 Cohort Characteristics - 31st March 2023

There is a high level of fluidity within the children in care cohort; this includes children coming into care and ceasing to be in care. 52.7% of children in care are placed outside of Peterborough; Peterborough Virtual School have therefore worked with education settings across many different educating authorities.

Peterborough Virtual School (<i>March 31st, 2023</i>)	Pupils	% of Total
Total number on school roll (pre-school to Year 13)	360	100%

Peterborough CiC - in Peterborough schools or education settings	155	43%
Peterborough CiC - in Out of Peterborough Schools or Education Settings	168	47%
Peterborough CiC - (with setting unmatched)	37	10%

The children and young people with unmatched setting include:

- 3 pre-school children (2 year olds)
- 3 children with EHCPs awaiting specialist placements (statutory school age)
- 1 child new to care (statutory school age)
- 4 separated migrant children (statutory school age)
- 27 young people who are NEET (including 13 separated migrant children)

Academic Year Groups	Pupils	% of Total
Pre-school	11	3%
Reception	5	1%
Year 1	6	2%
Year 2	6	2%
Year 3	18	5%
Year 4	8	2%
Year 5	20	6%
Year 6	23	6%
Year 7	25	7%
Year 8	30	8%
Year 9	28	8%
Year 10	51	14%
Year 11	46	13%
Year 12	56	16%
Year 13	27	8%

Male	218	61%
Female	137	38%
Other	5	1%

Ethnicity - White British	195	54%
Ethnicity - Not White British	165	46%

Separated Migrant Children (SMC)	44	12%
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Separated Migrant Children have no responsible adult, and therefore have child in care status. Peterborough participates in the National Transfer Scheme which means children and young people may be taken into our care as:

- Spontaneous arrivals within the county borders
- Transfers in from other local authorities

Throughout the year there has been a significant increase in the numbers of separated migrant children coming into the care of Peterborough City Council. This is attributable to an increase in the National Transfer Scheme allocation from 0.007% to 0.01% of the total child population.

Special Educational Needs (SEND)	Pupils	% of Total Cohort
Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 28 of the children attend mainstream settings • 49 attend special schools • 3 are awaiting a school placement (unmatched) • 3 attend alternative provision • 1 is employed • 2 are NEET • 1 is in a Secure Unit 	87	24%

Local Authority Interactive Tool (LAIT) data shows a significant drop in the numbers of Peterborough children in care with an EHCP from 31.4%. The national figure at this time was 30.2% and the statistical neighbour average is 30.1%.

Nationally, 49.5% of Looked After Children (DfE Eligible) have a SEND need of social, emotional, and mental health (SEMH).

Academic Year Groups of SEND Cohort	Pupils	% of SEN Cohort
Reception	1	1%
Year 1	0	0%
Year 2	1	1%
Year 3	2	2%
Year 4	0	0%
Year 5	8	9%
Year 6	7	8%
Year 7	4	5%
Year 8	12	14%
Year 9	7	8%
Year 10	19	22%
Year 11	13	15%
Year 12	9	10%
Year 13	4	5%

Children Previously in Care (CPiC)	Pupils	% of Total
Total number in Peterborough schools	252	100%
Primary School (including LA Maintained Nursery School) – total 61	171	68%
Secondary School – total 12	39	15%
All-through School – total 3	27	11%
Special School – total 5	15	6%

Source: Peterborough School Census Pupil Summary – October 2022

Children who have had a child in need plan (CiN) or child protection plan (CP) within the last 6 years				
	Child in Need (CiN)		Child protection (CP)	
	Cohort	% of cohort	Cohort	% of cohort
Total Cohort	456	100%	136	100%
Female	214	46.9%	68	50.0%
Male	233	51.1%	60	44.1%
To be confirmed	9	2.0%	8	5.9%
Babies 0 to 2	60	13.2%	43	31.6%
Nursery/Preschool	26	5.7%	12	8.8%
Reception to Year 11	340	74.6%	78	57.4%
Post 16	30	6.6%	3	2.2%

Source: Children's Social Care - Liquid Logic - 31st March 2023

DRAFT

4 Training and Development

Peterborough Virtual School is committed to developing the practice of professionals working with children and young people so that they have the relevant knowledge, information, and skills to enable them to fulfil their role in contributing to educational outcomes and raising aspirations. Our website and You Tube channel house all our training materials and are publicised through our email broadcast facility within our electronic Personal Education Plan (ePEP) provider, foster carer newsletters and on social media.

Both in-person and virtual training are used to allow flexibility for target audiences and ensure access for partners outside of the city.

4.1 Designated Teacher Training

Children in Care

To ensure Designated Teachers (DTs) are secure in their understanding of their statutory roles and responsibilities as well as effectively using Personal Education Plans (PEPs) to improve educational outcomes for children in care, Peterborough Virtual School offers two core training sessions which are run termly:

- Roles and Responsibilities of the Designated Teacher (RR of DT)
- High Quality PEPs (HQP)

12 DTs completed RR of DT this academic year (10 In-City and 2 Out of City). Most DTs attending were new to role and the overall feedback score was 4.5/5 showing those completing the training felt secure in their understanding of their roles and responsibilities.

I thought it was a very effective session and good to know who else is available to support. Thank you!

36 DTs completed HQP this academic year (22 In-City and 14 Out of City) resulting in 28% of Peterborough Schools completing this training. The overall feedback score was 4.2/5 showing those completing the training felt secure in their understanding of their roles and responsibilities. To ensure impact of this training, an improvement in the quality of the PEPs completed will need to be monitored.

The training was very comprehensive giving us specific details so that we are able to complete PEPs fully. Very informative again, thank you! These sessions are really helping me in my new role.

When a specific need is identified that cannot be addressed by the core offer, bespoke training packages are delivered to address precise outcomes within an education setting. 9 bespoke training packages were delivered to in-city settings in 22/23 (12% of settings).

Further to the core offer for DTs, this academic year settings have been offered Emotion Coaching training. Emotion Coaching uses moments of heightened emotion and resulting behaviour to guide and teach the child and young person about more effective responses.

Emotion Coaching training was attended by three cohorts of practitioners from in and out of city settings (n=44). The following graph highlights the impact of the training on practitioner knowledge. This is based on the median average pre-training knowledge level and the median average post-training knowledge level. The data shows that there was an increase in knowledge (by 2-3 points) relating to all four objectives.



Attendees provided their views on the relevance of the training to their practice. This is shown in the quotes below:

It was excellent. Good pace, excellent resources. Right number of breaks. Very knowledgeable presenters so really informative. Would definitely recommend.

The training was well planned out with plenty of breaks to keep our minds focused. Lots of time to think about the children we work with and what categories they fall under.

I knew some of the principles of emotion coaching, I just didn't realise that is what it was! It was great to tie all my previous snippets of learning together into one coherent approach! Thank you so much for the training because I now feel much more confident to apply what I know into practice. I know that this is going to be effective in the long term.

Children Previously in Care (CPiC)

Two trainings courses were available to DTs specifically aimed at the cohort of Children Previously in Care (CPiC): Roles & Responsibilities of the DT for CPiC and Educational Considerations for CPiC. Educational Considerations for CPiC is an in-depth course for DTs exploring best-practice for supporting CPiC within settings. Due to limited sign-up on this course, this course did not run in the academic year 22/23. Feedback from DTs will be sought to identify the barriers for attendance on this course and relevant adaptations made to increase attendance.

Conversely, a further 14 Designated Teachers (DTs) were trained in Roles & Responsibilities of the DT for CPiC this academic year with an overall rating of 4.4/5 given in feedback showing secure understanding of the content covered. 4 of these DTs were new DTs in their settings. 44 Peterborough schools have now completed this training which is 56% of Peterborough Schools. The impact of this training is reflected in the reduced number of referrals from education settings to PVS for advice regarding CPiC. Next academic year, settings who have yet to complete Roles & Responsibilities of the DT for CPiC, will be invited to join the training to work towards the target of all Peterborough settings having a secure understanding of their roles and responsibilities regarding CPiC.

Very engaging delivery and informative. Will definitely be booking further training.

4.3 Connected Communities Project (Trauma Responsive)

About the Connected Communities Programme

The Connected Communities Project has developed over the last six years and last year, the cohort of settings across the project increased to 25, adding six more settings to the two-year course. Connected Communities is a trauma-responsive project which aims to support settings to embed trauma-responsivity in their school environment, policy, culture and practice. Phase 1 of the project was an introduction to the project involving 71 schools. The phases following this involve two participants per setting signing up to a two-year intensive programme which is disseminated to their whole setting. Phases 3 and 4 cohorts (see table below) accessed the course last year. The first year of the course is a training phase and the second year takes the form of net work meetings to embed training content and share practice.

Phase	Number of schools in cohort	Start date
1	71	N/A
2	10	September 2020
3	8	March 2021
4	6	April 2022

Evaluation Data Phase 3

Due to the pressures faced by education settings currently, not all the schools (n=8) completed the two year Connected Communities course within this time. Additional time to complete was provided. Impact data reported below is from three settings that completed by July 2023. All schools participate in a sharing session at the end of the course which involves the two setting leads and their Head Teacher. Some of these were delayed due to Peterborough Virtual School staff illness last year. These will take place next academic year.

Sharing sessions are based on semi-structured solution-focused interviews which collect qualitative information about the impact of the project. These were undertaken with three schools. The interview data was analysed using thematic analysis (Braun and Clarke 2006). The Word Cloud below shows the main themes.

What is the impact of Connected Communities?



The themes were further analysed into five main themes. These are outlined below with supporting quotes from setting leads:

Organisational level impact

- ‘School are currently revisiting their Behaviour Policy with the intention that a revised policy will be in place September 2023.’
- ‘School have put in place a new approach which has helped to train and support staff to have a whole school behaviour approach and a general sense of calm across the school.’

Children’s emotional development

- ‘CYP are more aware of their emotions and that it is okay to have strong emotions.’
- ‘Some CYP are now showing self-awareness of their emotional states and when they need to use the regulatory bag, together with when they can stop using the bag.’

Improved staff practice

- ‘Emotion Coaching has given staff consistency of approach, with support for the language to use. After we had delivered the training to staff, we immediately started hearing it from core staff in the corridors. The other staff are now progressing and are getting more confident.’
- ‘The language of teachers heard about school has now changed from challenging the behaviour to being curious as to what happened before an incident and what the CYP is trying to say.’
- There is now calm music in the classroom, and teachers greet and say goodbye to their class. Staff are thinking more about their relationships with the CYP.’

Safer environment

- ‘Class community is about making the children feel they belong, to be part of something that is being done with them rather than to them. We will start next term to support staff with the importance of the class community. We are teaching some of our teachers to have the confidence to re-set the class environment.’
- ‘We have set up quite a few safe spaces across the school, together with the 2 SEN rooms and the Family Support room, plus Safe Space bags. All classrooms now have regulatory bags to use in school, as there is not the space to easily expand into.’

Relationships with parents

- ‘Relationships with parents has improved although school are aware that there is a need for more strategies required for specific need eg: bereavement. Talking with the parents allows school to be more informed, particularly with KS1.’

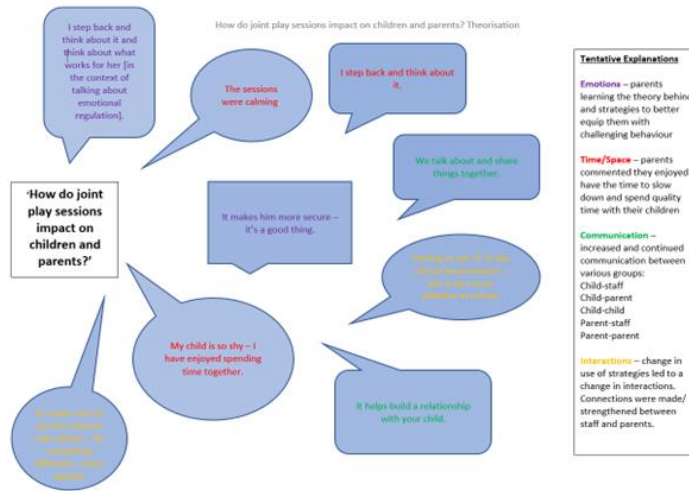
Research Projects

As part of Connected Communities, setting leads are required to complete a research project to build capacity in trauma-responsive practice for their school. Three settings have completed their research projects which show the impact of a specific piece of research on their setting.

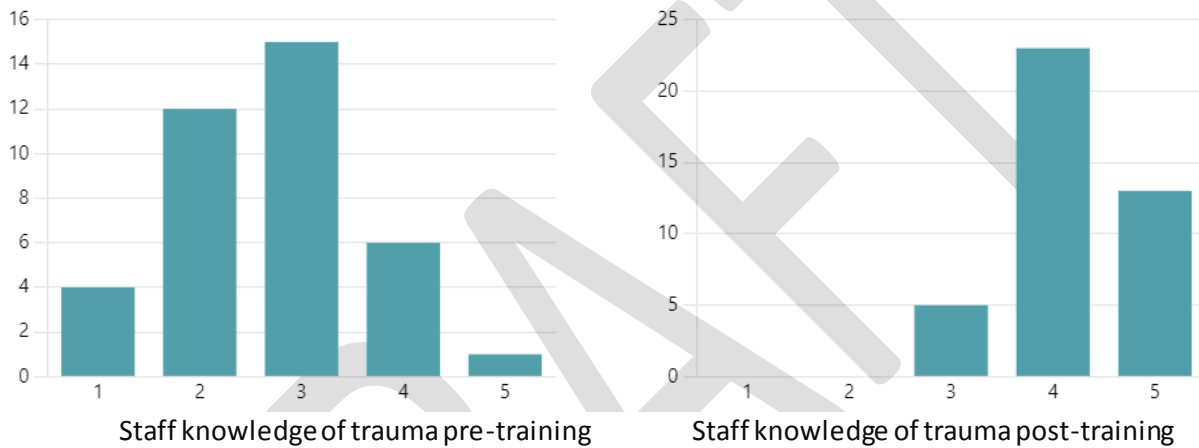
Discovery Primary Academy measured the impact of trauma-responsive training on staff and found that knowledge of developmental trauma increased following the training. See below for results showing that knowledge increased from the very low to moderate range to the moderate to high range.



St Thomas More Primary School explored the impact of joint play sessions on parents finding that the sessions impacted on the parents’ understanding of emotions, they had more quality time with their children, communication between parents and children improved and there were strengthened relationships between staff and parents. See below for thematic analysis.



St Michaels C of E Primary School measured the impact of trauma-responsive training on staff practice and children’s behaviour logs. Results below show that knowledge of trauma increased from between 1 to 5 points to 3 to 5 points indicating that staff gained in their knowledge about trauma.



Behaviour log data

The table below shows that all children showed a reduction in behaviour logs following the staff training.

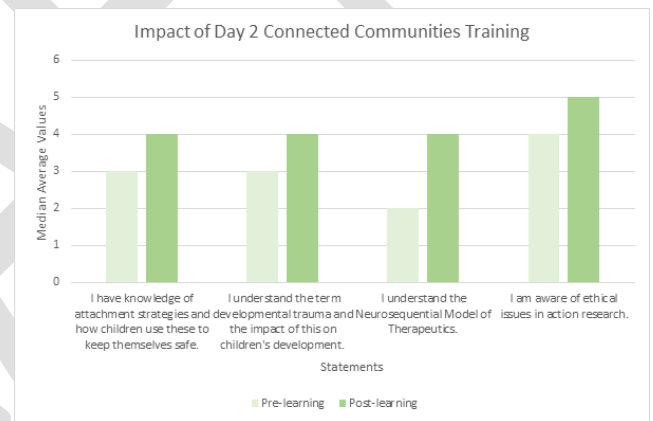
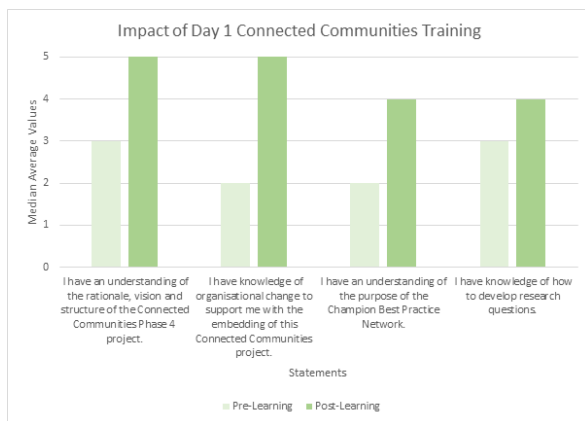
Child	Year 2021-2022	Year 2022-2023
Child A	133	56
Child B	144	81
Child C	156	77
Child D	178	112
Child E	149	46
Child F	153	63

Safe spaces - regulation areas set up as part of the connected communities project at St Michaels:



Evaluation Data Phase 4

Evaluation data is presented for sessions facilitated during the academic year 2022-2023. Six settings are part of Phase 4. The following graphs shows the median average impact of the training on setting leads' knowledge and understanding for Day 1 & 2 content. Attendees gained in their knowledge between 1 and 3 points.



The following graphs show the median average impact of the training on setting leads' knowledge and understanding for Day 3 - 6 content. Attendees gained in their knowledge between 1 and 2 points.



4.2 Social Worker Training

New social workers are referred to the Virtual School as part of their induction program for training in the completion of PEPs and other matters relating to education. Social Workers can also contact the trainer directly to arrange a convenient time. 32 sessions were booked in this way with attendance of 56%. To improve the offer, and maintain high levels of compliance and quality, fortnightly PEP clinics are held with VS staff available for training support and advice. There are also training modules developed by the team on our electronic PEP provider and available on our website.

4.3 Foster Carer Training

We offer a range of training opportunities for foster carers; the fostering service is shared across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough and therefore some of these sessions were completed in collaboration with Cambridgeshire Virtual School. This year courses were attended by an average of 65% of those booked, with some sessions reaching attendance of 90%.

77% of session evaluations (of which 60% completed) highlighted an improvement in knowledge. All courses were delivered virtually. Fostering shared their Carer training survey results with PVS and we intend to deliver e-learning and a Foster Carers Conference in the next academic year. Below is the training delivered this year.

- How to support your child with their education – Early Years/Preschool
- How to support your child with their education – Primary
- How to support your young person with their education – Secondary
- How to support your child with their education – Post 16 (for young people in Y9-Y13)
- How to support your child/young person with transitions (Primary to Secondary school)
- Supporting school readiness and transitions to school (Early Years)
- Supporting your child as a reader (FS and KS1)
- How to support your Separated Migrant Child (SMC)
- My future self - How to support your child to develop high aspirations
- Supporting your younger child as a writer (KS1)
- Supporting Children with Maths at KS1 and KS2

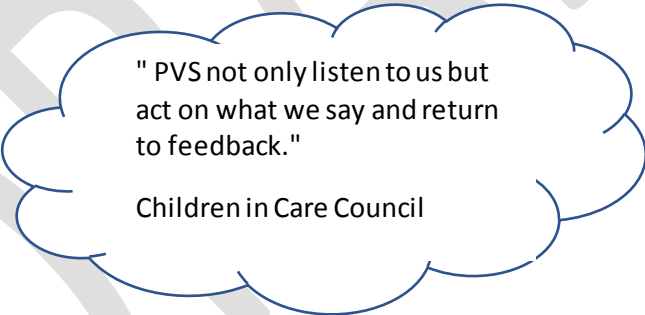
The PVS Educational Psychologist is also available for consultation.

4.5 Children in Care Council

The voice of the child/young person is of central importance to our work as a Virtual School. To this end, staff members attend Children in Care Council (CiCC) meetings to seek the view of Children in Care. Staff attend CiCC meetings and Informal Corporate Parenting Committee meetings.

Activities with the CiCC have included:

- Consulted CiCC to review YP view section on all Key stages, through Improving ePEP questions for the child/young person section.
- Sharing with a range of professionals the 'Every Word Matters' video made by CiCC.
- Attendance by PVS Officers to consult CiCC on the use of Squiddle which is a 'tool' to enhance Children and Young People's voice and to access and record their views and upload any achievements they wish to add to the PEP.
- PVS Officers consulted with the Children and Young People of the CiCC to feedback on the design and information on the CYP pages on the PVS website. PVS then returned to feedback the requested changes to the CiCC.
- PVS Officers attended and supported the CiC awards through delivering activities and joining in the celebrations.
- CiCC shared best consultation and feedback process with other council departments based on their experiences of working with the Virtual School Team. To enable other departments to achieve a good working relationship with the CiCC.



" PVS not only listen to us but act on what we say and return to feedback."

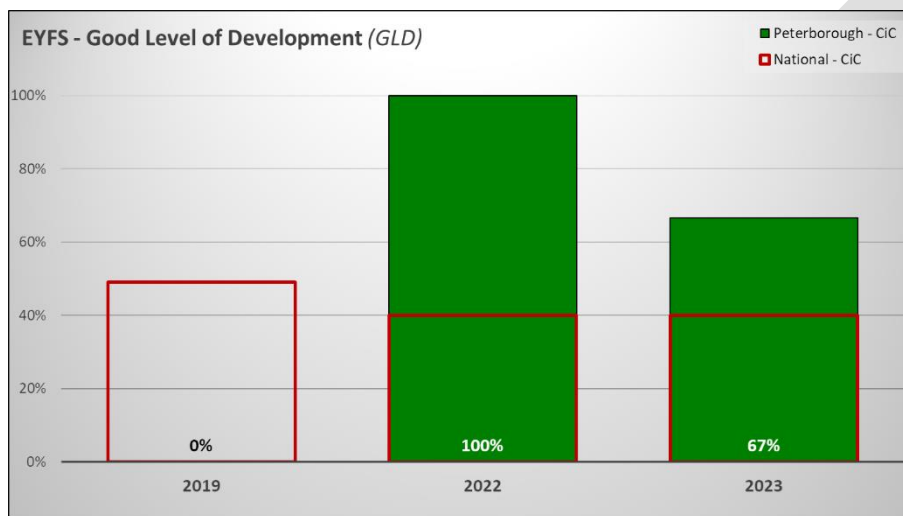
Children in Care Council

5 Learning Outcomes

There is no 2020 or 2021 data available due to the COVID-19 pandemic; this is why the three-year trend starts at 2019 rather than 2021.

5.1 Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

Children are defined as having reached a Good Level of Development (GLD) at the end of the EYFS if they have achieved the expected level for the Early Learning Goals (ELGs) in the prime areas of learning and the specific areas of mathematics and literacy.

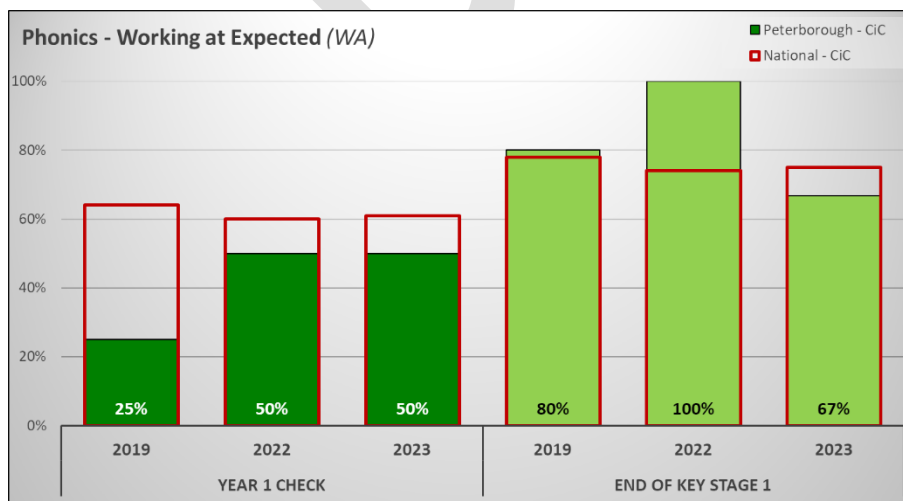


Peterborough - CiC Cohort	
2019	2
2022	1
2023	3

As in previous years, the cohorts contain so few pupils that the data set is statistically unmeaningful and comparison cannot be drawn.

5.2 National Phonics Screening Check

This data covers the attainment of both year 1 pupils taking the test for the first time and year 2 pupils who did not reach the required standard in Year 1 and therefore were required to re-sit.



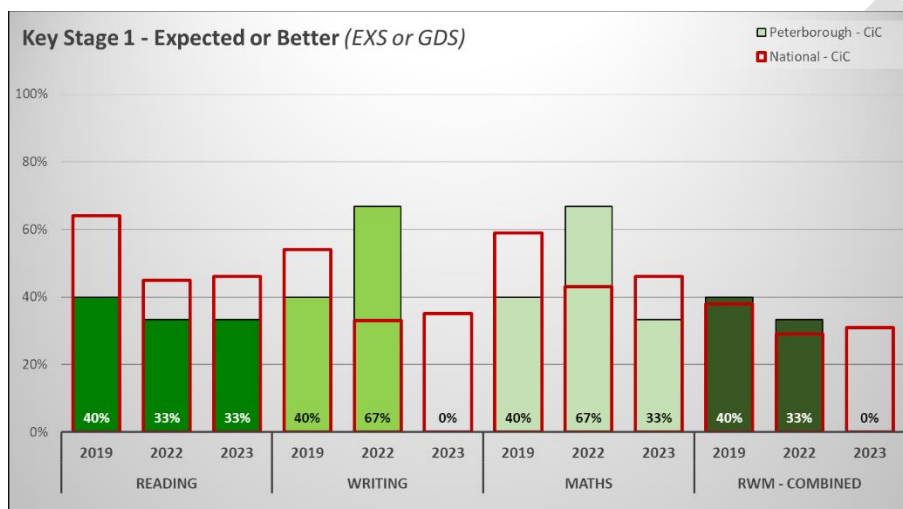
Peterborough - CiC Cohort	
Year 1 Check	
2019	4
2022	2
2023	4

Peterborough - CiC Cohort	
End of Key Stage 1	
2019	5
2022	3
2023	3

In the Year1 cohort, of the 2 children who achieved the expected standard in the Phonics Screening, both had specific reference to the Phonics Screen in their PEPs. Of the 2 children who did not achieve the expected standard, both did not achieve Good Level of Development (GLD) at the end of their Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). They both also experience disruption in their care placements with one child experiencing 3 care placement breakdowns whilst in Year 1.

In cohort of children who re-sat their Phonics Screen in Year 2, 1 child did not achieve the expected standard. This child also did not achieve GLD at the end of EYFS and has an EHCP.

5.3 Key Stage 1

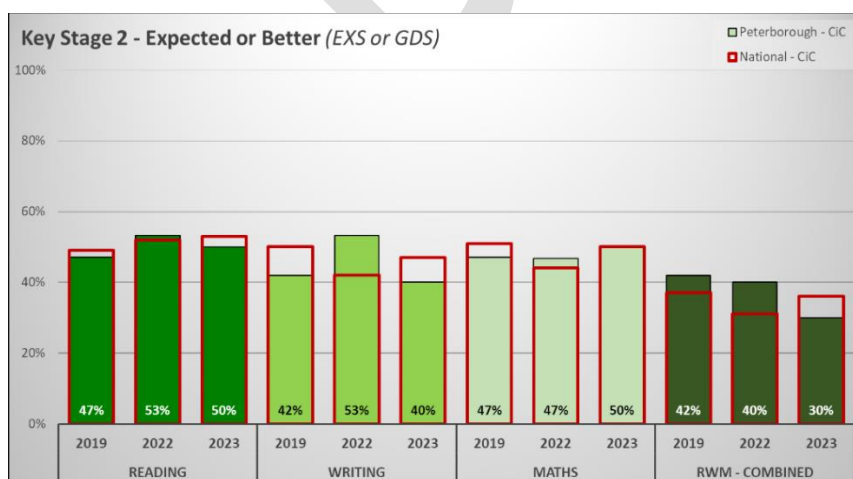


Peterborough - CiC Cohort	
2019	5
2022	3
2023	3

As in previous years, the cohorts contain so few pupils that the data set is statistically unmeaningful and comparisons cannot be drawn.

Of the 3 children in Year 2, none achieved the expected standard in reading, writing and maths combined. One child achieved the expected standard in reading and a different child achieved the expected standard in maths. The child who did not achieve expected standard in any subject has an EHCP and will be moving to a special school next academic year.

5.2 Key Stage 2



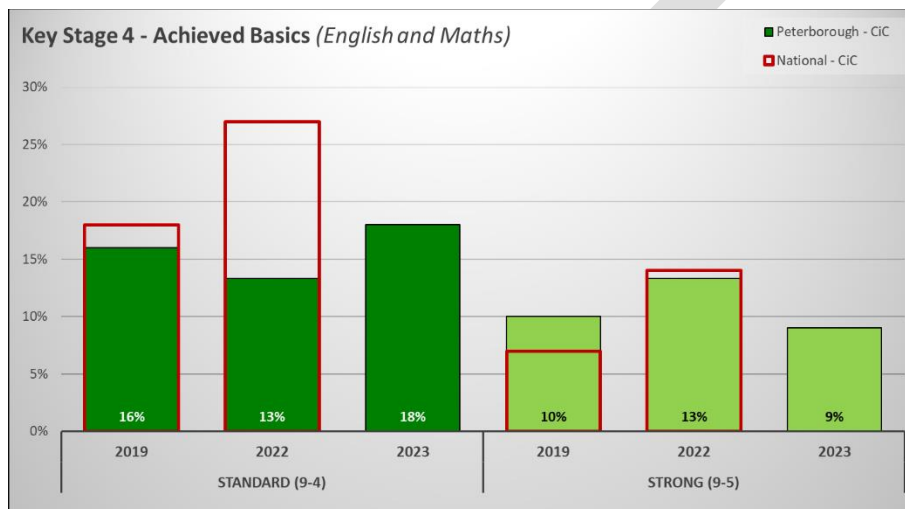
Peterborough - CiC Cohort	
2019	19
2022	15
2023	10

30% of Peterborough children in care (3 children) achieved reading, writing and maths combined at the end of Year 6. This is compared to 36% of children in care nationally and 52.4% of all children in Peterborough schools. Two more were very close; one child scored 99/120 in reading (100/120 is required for expected) and another missed only in writing. Four children did not reach expected standard in any area; all of these children have an EHCP.

5.3 Key Stage 4

After the use of teacher- and centre-assessed grades in 2020 and 2021, this academic year saw the return of grades to pre-pandemic levels. This cohort had experienced a disrupted KS4 education due to the Covid pandemic.

The data below is unvalidated; validated data will be released by the DfE in March 2024. Therefore, there are currently no national comparisons.



Peterborough - CiC Cohort	
2019	31
2022	22
2023	34

The Key Stage 4 core cohort was 34. Seven young people achieved a grade 4 or higher in Maths and seven young people achieved a grade 4 or higher in English. Of these young people, six achieved both English and Maths at grade 4 or higher and 3 of these achieved both at grade 5 or higher. Three young people achieved attainment 8 grades of 52, 57 and 58 respectively.

Analysis of the group of six young people who achieved shows common characteristics of their journeys:

- No disruption to secondary education – all attended 1 secondary school only
- All achieved age related expectations at the end of Year 2 and Year 6
- School attendance was high >97%
- Pupil premium plus grant was spent on academic interventions including tuition
- Minimal changes of home placement – 4 had only 1 home, 1 had 2 and the 3rd had 3
- On average they had been in care for 8 years
- All have progressed onto level 3 courses

A range of additional qualifications were gained by young people beyond GCSEs. These included functional skills qualifications in both English and Maths, BTEC level 1s and 2s and AQA single awards. One young person with

complex SEND achieved her functional skills in English, City and Guilds for Working Life and a double WEJEC Humanities Pathway.

5.4 Post 16

A variety of pathways were studied in Years 12 and 13; these included level 1,2 and 3 programmes for both academic and vocational courses as well as English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) courses. Additionally, students with complex SEND were supported with non-subject specific programmes developing life skills and independence. The following table relates to courses, not individual students. A student may appear in multiple columns.

Academic Cohort	ESOL Courses for EAL Students <i>(including Pre-entry & Transition Courses)</i>			Functional Skills <i>(English and Maths Courses)</i>		Individual Curriculum Education	NVQ, BTEC & Other Vocational Courses			GCSE / A-Level	
	Pre-entry or Transition	Pass	Withdrew or did not pass	Pre-entry or Transition	Withdrew or did not pass	Course is ongoing	Grade awarded	Course Ongoing	Withdrawn or not recorded	Grade awarded	Withdrew or not recorded
Year 12	15	6	2	6	2	2	10	1	6	8	2
Year 13	13	10	6	2	-	-	7	-	19	12	-
Total Post-16 Cohort	28	16	8	8	2	2	17	1	25	20	2

Two young people have progressed onto Higher Education courses are undertaking degrees in initial teacher training and nursing. The table below shows the destinations of young people at the end of Years 12 and 13.

Academic Cohort 2022-2023	Year 12	Year 13
UK higher education institution	-	2
Further education	33	25
Other education destinations	4	-
Sustained employment destination	-	1
Not recorded as a sustained destination	-	2
Activity not captured	10	25

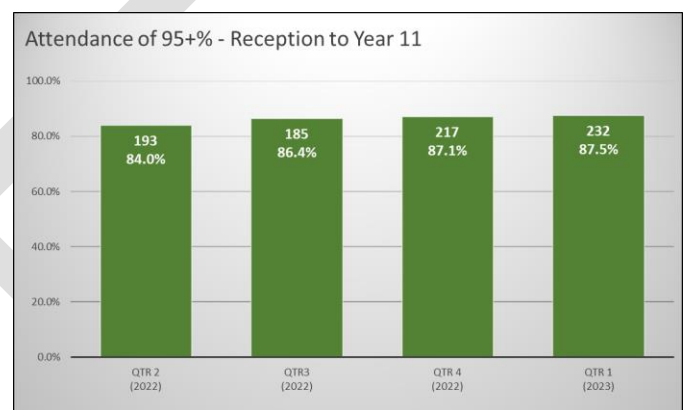
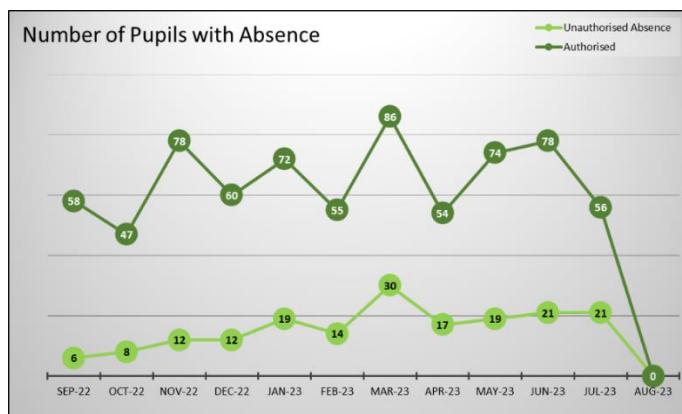
Next steps around attainment and progress include the implementation of a dashboard to enable term on term scrutiny at both and individual pupil and cohort level. This will enable interventions and allocation of the pupil premium plus grant to be targeted with increased precision.

6 Inclusion

6.1 Absence

Nationally, attendance has improved for all children including those in care over the last academic year, however it is still significantly worse than pre-pandemic levels. Attendance data always runs a year behind the other data releases, the 2022-23 data is not due for release until March/April 2024.

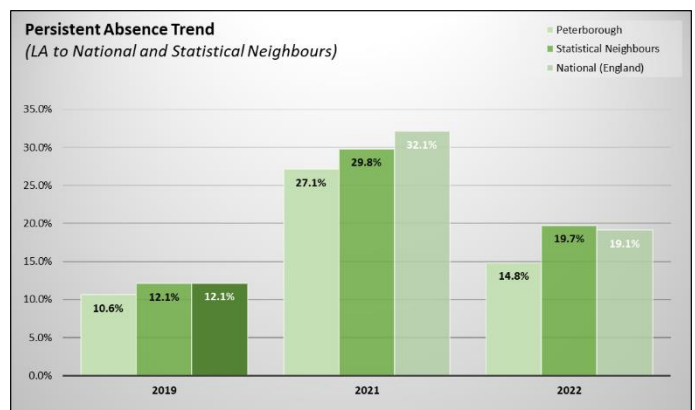
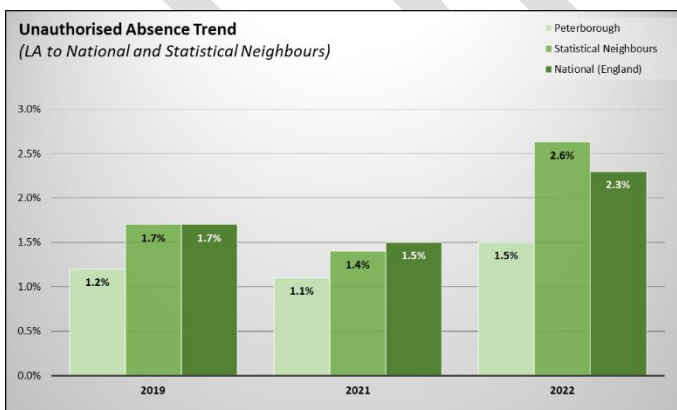
Peterborough children in care have an absence rate of 7.2%; this compares favourably against the Eastern Region (8.5%) and statistical neighbours (8.09%) averages.



Source: Looked After Call – main dashboard

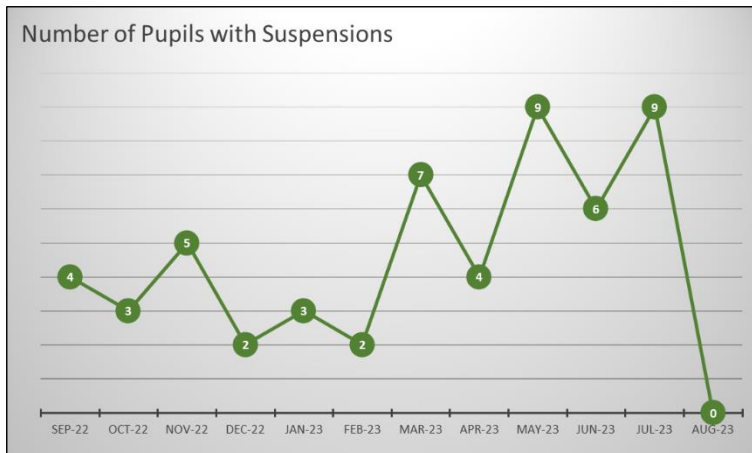
Total Cohort	
Qtr 2 - 2022	214
Qtr 3 - 2022	214
Qtr 4 - 2022	249
Qtr 1 - 2023	265

Source: DfE - Local authority interactive tool (LAIT) <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-authority-interactive-tool-lait>



Peterborough's unauthorised absence rate has increased to 1.5% (+0.4%). This is concerning, but a lower increase than the Eastern Region (2.00%, +0.7%) or statistical neighbours (2.63%, +1.2%).

6.2 Exclusions and suspensions



As part of the attendance data set the Suspension data is also a year behind the other data sets with the 2022-23 figures due out in March/April 2024.

The Virtual School has a duty to work with Head Teachers to try and avoid the exclusion of a child in care and make sure that they have the support in place to thrive and make progress. The Virtual School has been quick in its response to any fixed term suspensions or threat of exclusion so that a joint plan for the child can be implemented.

For those children and young people who had fixed term suspension PVS staff attended return to school meetings to support the child and carers and to ensure robust plans were in place to minimise the risk of further instances of suspension. We receive information on fixed term suspensions from our external attendance service or are advised of these by Designated Teachers, social workers, or carers. In the case of any repeat suspensions, additional PEP meetings are held to check that all necessary support is being given.

Children with EHCPs were underrepresented in the suspension data which suggests that EHCPs are acting as a protective factor against suspension. Next steps in this area include embedding an additional question in the PEP template around internal exclusions in schools; it is expected that this will support the identification of individual children most at risk of being suspended and enable preventative support to be put in place.

Persistent or general disruptive behaviour was the most cited reason for exclusion. Three city schools (2 secondary and 1 special) were over-represented in the suspension data. This data will inform the work of education advisors next academic year who will provide an enhanced offer to these schools and work to support alternatives to suspension with them.

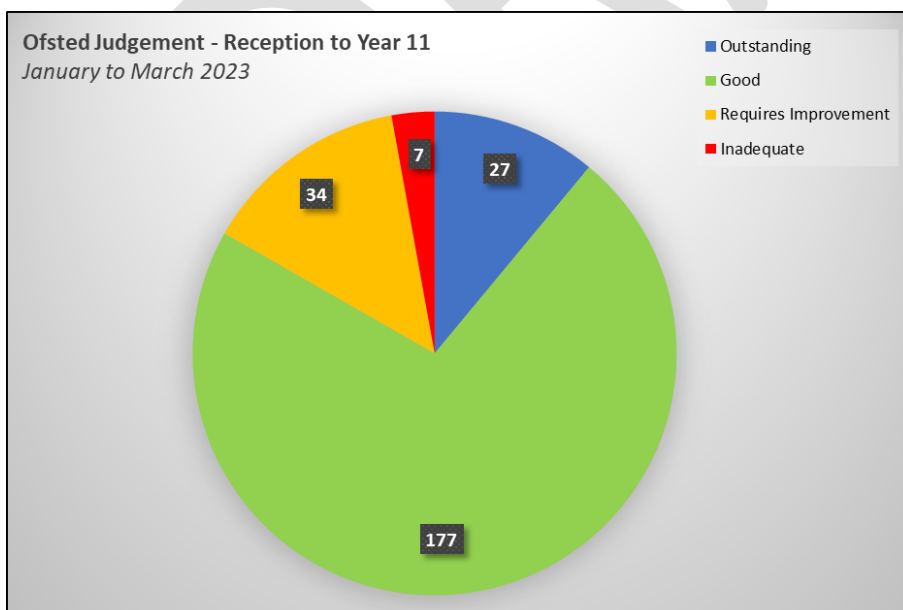
6.3 Alternative Provision

Establishment Type	Number
Number on school roll (<i>preschool to Year 11</i>)	266
Number in independent schools	22
Number in LA Special School in city	19
Number in LA Special School out of city	8
Number in PRU / AP in city	1
Number in PRU / AP out of city	1
Number with EHCPs	75

6.4 Quality of Provision

% CIC attending school judged to be good or better	
Year 2	83% (<i>5 of 6 pupils</i>)
Year 6	82% (<i>18 of 22 Pupils</i>)
Year 11	89% (<i>40 of 45 Pupils</i>)

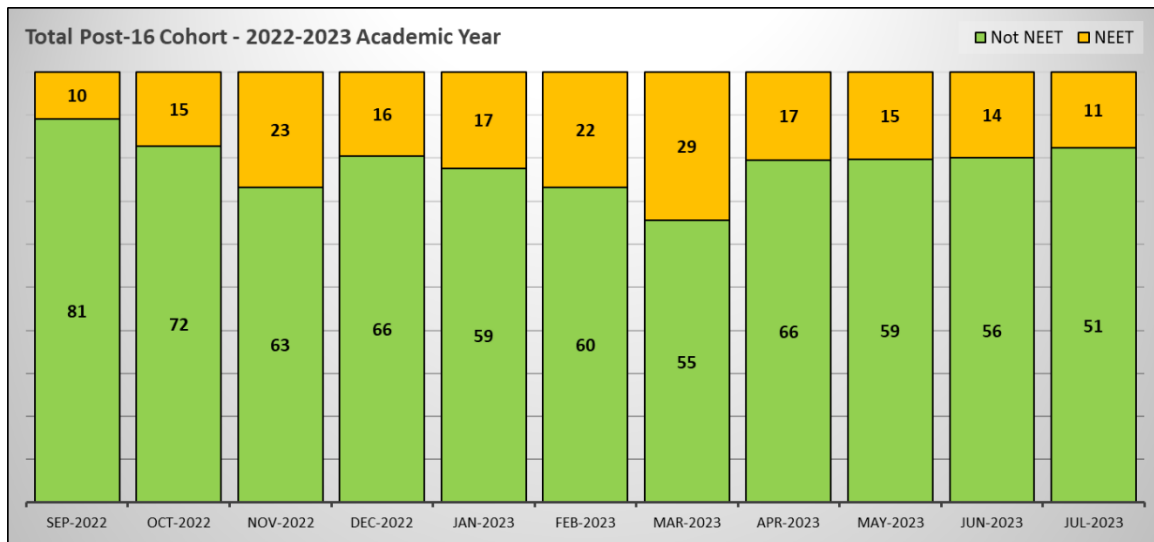
The lower percentage of children attending a school judged to be good or better in Years 2 and 6 is due to several of the schools converting to academies and have not been re-inspected yet, therefore previous judgements remain. It is expected that conversion to an academy and membership of a multi academy trust will drive improvements. PVS monitors all children, but those in schools judged to be less than good, are subject to closer scrutiny.



Next academic year an enhanced offer will be made for schools and settings who are not good or outstanding to ensure that any children attending are not disadvantaged.

6.5 Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)

The cohort of NEET young people fluctuates across the academic year; to be determined as NEET a young person must be beyond statutory school age (Year 12 and upwards) and not accessing any education, employment or training. Consequently, a young person identified as NEET will always be either unemployed or economically inactive. Specific trigger points include the end of October which is the point at which colleges review engagement and officially enrol the young person, and a second trigger point is Christmas.



The above table shows number of NEET young people (aged 16 and 17) in care over the 2022-2023 academic year. This year the average percentage was higher than previous years due to high number of withdrawals and disengagement sometimes linked to emotional mental health. It should be noted that the decline in numbers within the total cohort declines over the academic year when young people reach their 18th birthday.

There has been an increase in the number of Separated Migrant Children placed in the care of Peterborough City Council due to increases in the national transfer scheme. This has placed a significant strain on colleges places due to limited ESOL (English as a Second Language) places. Typically, the number of separated migrant children arriving increases in the Spring due to improving weather conditions and therefore NEET figures peaked in March 2023. Considerable strategic work was undertaken by Peterborough Virtual School in partnership with Further Education providers at this point and almost all young people requiring ESOL provision were able to start on a bespoke ESOL Transition programme by Peterborough College in April 2023. The limited availability of ESOL provision remains a priority for the forthcoming year.

7 Personal Education Plans (PEPs)

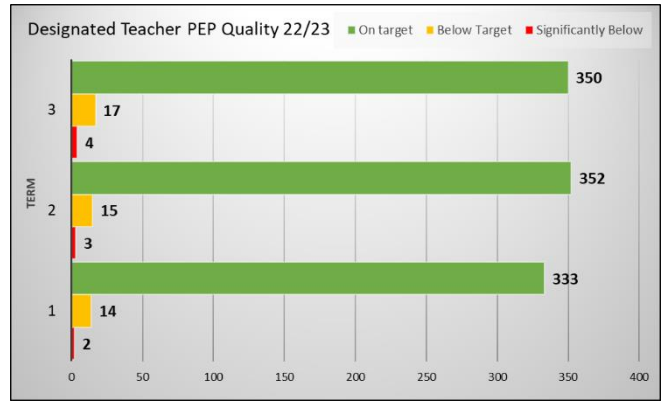
During the academic year 2022-23, 1108 PEP meetings were held. PEP meetings are led by the Designated Teacher in settings and attended by Social Worker, Carer and the child/young person if they wish to.

Virtual School staff do not attend every PEP meeting, however will attend for all newly into care children, when a change of school place occurs, or where a child is in crisis and attendance is requested by the school or social worker.



Attendance at PEP meetings is consistently high for both social workers (92% of all PEP meetings) and carers (91% of all PEP meetings) but there are occasions when a social worker or carer is unable to attend due to sickness or other unforeseen circumstances. In these circumstances, it is at the discretion of the Designated Teacher and PVS staff whether the meeting takes place.

All PEPs are quality assured by PVS staff and those judged to be below an acceptable standard trigger additional support and challenge from the VS team. Most PEPs (95%) are judged to be 'on target' meaning following quality-assurance, the PEP meets the expected standard in all areas. For those that fall 'below target,' PVS staff will provide support, training and challenge to the relevant professionals to ensure rapid improvements are made.



Next academic year members of Peterborough Virtual School will empower Designated Teachers, Carers and Social Workers to manage PEP meetings without Virtual School presence unless there is a clear rationale for it and an intended impact. This will be supported through the production of video guides and a suite of e-learning modules. This way of working will enhance the team’s capacity to work at a strategic level which will result in greater influence on the policy, practice and culture of education settings. This influence will have a wider reaching, more sustained positive impact on the education of our children and young people.

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8 Pupil Premium Plus Grant (Financial Year 2022-2023)

The Pupil Premium plus Grant allocation for Financial Year 2022/2023 was £636,240. This was based on a £2410 per pupil allocation for children who had a period of 24 hours or more in the care of Peterborough City Council. Additionally, Peterborough Virtual School received allocations from the National Tutoring Programme of £55,200 and the Recovery Premium Grants of £37,730.

£302,104 was devolved directly to the educational settings. This amount includes the cost of partnership staff, Connected Communities training and bursaries and the Outdoor Learning Adventure provision. Additionally, this amount also includes the Inspire project (with Peterborough and Stamford Colleges). Payments to schools are made termly upon submission and approval of SMART targets within a quality assured and time compliant PEP. These targets are reviewed at each PEP meeting to hold the school to account and to ensure appropriate interventions are in place to support progress. In exceptional cases, educational settings applied for additional funding to support children requiring intensive short-term interventions tailored to their individual needs and circumstances.

The remaining £334,136 was used to support the work and improvement of the Virtual School.

Allocation	Cost £
Additional tuition	£48,196
Letterbox Club (see report below)	£8138
External PEP and Attendance Services	£27,411
Staffing	£242,503
Other costs (including subscriptions, venue hire)	£7888
TOTAL	£334,136

8.1 Letterbox Club

Once again, the Letterbox initiative has been very well received by our Primary aged cohort of children in care, of whom 64 have received seven monthly packages during 2022/2023. Each pack is posted out by our staff to the child's home address, ensuring they get to experience the excitement of a parcel arriving at home for them. This has the added benefit of the child realising that they have a proper place within this world.

We decided, following feedback, that the younger children had greater benefit from these packs, so prioritise those in FS, KS1 and KS2. The main reason behind this is that as children get older and more expert at reading, they also develop stronger preferences, and it becomes more important that they can select their own reading materials, if they are to get the best out of them. Younger children still need guidance in selecting texts and need to experience all the genres available and suitable for them whilst they are still finding out what they really enjoy or gain most from.

Each package includes at least two newly published books (which ensures no duplicate books are sent) items of stationery to inspire writing, puppets or small toys linked to the texts for the younger children and maths games

suitable for home play for all ages. This year for the first time we have added a new pack for those children who are older but have lower than expected reading skills, including books of higher maturity but lower readability, which have proved extremely helpful and fun for some of our students with special educational needs. The aim of this initiative is to encourage reading at home and to further interaction with foster carers and wider family members. Developing a language rich home environment is a priority and many children within this cohort have not had experience of this. The project contributes to building that love of literature that we so want for all our children.

For our very youngest children in care, from new babies to pre-schoolers, we have signed up to Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, and these children are sent a high-quality picture book each month direct to their home. This initiative is a little trickier as permissions are needed from all adults involved as home address details are kept on a secure system in the USA. Additionally, as new young children come into care, we need to identify them and get them signed up to make the most of this offer, which is completely free to us.

8.2 Forest School Report

In partnership with Ravensthorpe Primary School, Peterborough Virtual School have continued to offer primary school aged children carefree weekly sessions on their Outdoor Learning Adventure (OLA.) OLA is based around the principles of Forest School where children participate in self-selected fun, engaging and rewarding activities that promote key skills such as resilience, problem-solving, team working, creativity, independence and resourcefulness. Activities range from cooking on the fire, to designing and making things from natural resources, to building a den to enjoy a hot chocolate in, to simply playing in the mud kitchen. The use of tools and fire are also integral parts of OLA and encourage children to identify and manage risk. OLA provides children with an opportunity to spend time outdoors, make and maintain new friendships and to enjoy themselves. To ensure the children know what to expect, PVS produced a short video showing the site and activities they may take part in: [Outdoor Learning Adventure](#)

OLA has three core staff members consisting of two Level 3 Forest School Leaders and one Level 2 Forest School Assistant. This year another PVS Staff member has been trained to Level 3 to ensure cover is provided where needed. The OLA lead liaises with schools, social workers and carers to set appropriate targets for the child to achieve at OLA. These usually focus on soft skills such as making and maintaining friendships, building resilience or trying new experiences.

In the year 2022/23, 19 children in care benefitted from attending OLA either weekly or twice weekly. Their ages ranged from 5 to 12. 80% of children attending OLA this year achieved their set targets and the feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. For some groups, the focus is on enriching their education and soft skills. For other groups, the focus is supporting emotional regulation enabling them to remain in full-time education; this is done through building on the child's strengths and giving them a feeling of success and belonging. A particular success in 2022/23 was a sibling group with a focus on building self-esteem and the confidence to try new things, ready for planned adoptions. All 3 of the children who attended showed an increase in their engagement with new adults and peers. One child even had the confidence to support newcomers to the sessions and be a model to their peers in activities. Their development and success were celebrated when it was time for them to leave OLA, with a certificate for their achievement with all 3 children experiencing successful pre-adoptive placements. The other children also benefitted from developing their skills of making and maintaining friendships as well as how to manage risks and prepare for transitions.

For the children who attend, OLA is a place where they smile and succeed.



8.3 Report of the Specialist Educational Psychologist

Type of involvement

There has been Educational Psychology (EP) involvement for 25 children in care between September 2022 and June 2023. There has been a reduction in the number of individual involvements due to the introduction of the Complex Needs and Funding Panel (CCFP) which has replaced a number of initial consultations for children with social workers and virtual school team members. The Specialist Educational Psychologist is part of the decision-making process at the CCFP. The academic year was also shorter due to sickness absence between June 2023 and August 2023.

The table below shows the breakdown of the types of involvement to support children in care between September 2022 and June 2023. Some of these involvements have overlaps (e.g. sustaining placement and consultation).

Type of involvement	Number of children
Assessment to identify needs	10
Consultation with school and foster carers including reviews of progress (multiple times for some children)	6
Sustaining placement/risk of placement breakdown	5
Preparation for adulthood	1
Consultation with social workers	3
Indirect involvement via consultation with Peterborough Virtual School team members	4
Multi-professional meetings including PEPs and annual reviews (multiple times for some children)	3
Bespoke training for settings	2

Impact Data

The graph below demonstrates the satisfaction scores from professionals following EP involvement. The format of evaluations changed this year to reflect hybrid working and Microsoft forms were sent out to gather views on Educational Psychology involvement. There was a low response rate for evaluations with only six resultant respondents (n=6).

Service satisfaction score



All six professionals rated their satisfaction as excellent.

When asked what helped them, they responded with:

Respondent	Comment
1	Chloe was able to provide some insight and support into the young person's reactions and different behaviours and her support has helped to put together a comprehensive assessment to complete a referral for additional support for the young person.
2	Knowing how we can plan going forward
3	Being able to unpick specific needs through a thorough assessment and pinpointing specific strategies that the student was previously masking.
4	Chloe was able to provide a high level of insight about our student, reframing and organising our existing information and understanding, contextualising behaviours in historic antecedents, and providing strategies and recommendations so that we can promote feelings of security and enable social emotional progress. I think the service provided by Chloe and Peterborough VS is wonderful and crucial service that directly benefits students and professionals.
5	Excellent follow up meeting, clear recommendations in report- clear, resourceful and manageable within the school setting. We were very happy with the service and Chloe was efficient, knowledgeable and supportive. Thank you!
6	In person visit to do assessment with child. Feedback meeting to all stakeholders.

Impact of consultation (n=6)

Concerns before and after consultation are measured using a Likert Scale from 1 to 5 (1 meaning least concerned and 5 meaning most concerned). The following table shows the reduction in concerns following an initial consultation:

Reduction	Number of respondents
No change	0
1 point	3
2 points	2
Increase	1

Following initial consultation, 5 out of 6 respondents noted that their concerns had reduced. One highlighted that they were more concerned due to the level of needs which had been identified.

In addition, the views of children who have had assessment were gained using a scale of 1-5 (1 being not at all good and five being very good). All children rated their experience at a 5 (n=7). Ten children had assessments (n=10) but it was not deemed appropriate for one child who was assessed as he was dysregulated during the visit and two children were observed rather than having direct involvement.

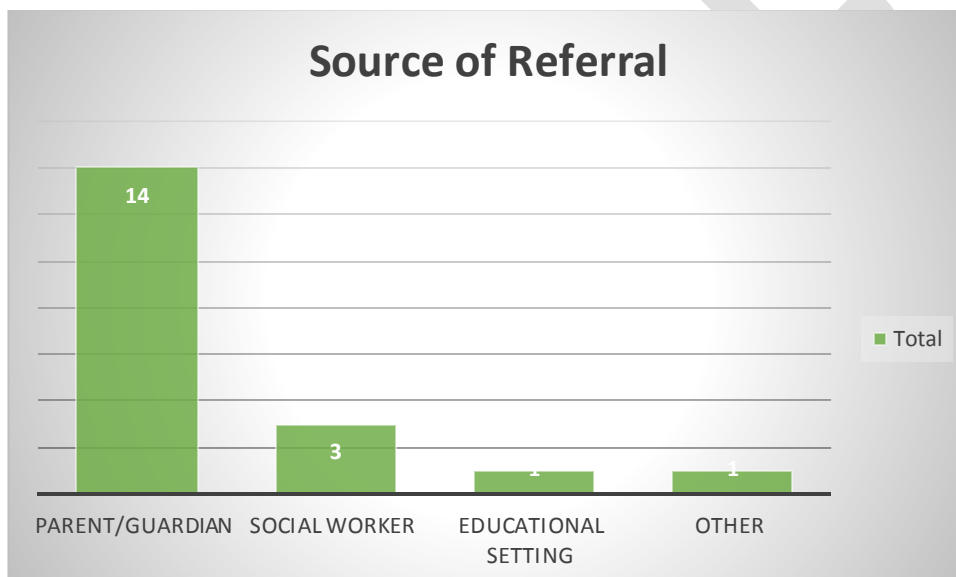
9 CPiC/CWSW

9.1 Children Previously in Care

The Virtual School has a statutory duty to provide advice, guidance and information to education settings, parents/guardians and a range of professionals around improving the educational outcomes of CPiC.

Referrals

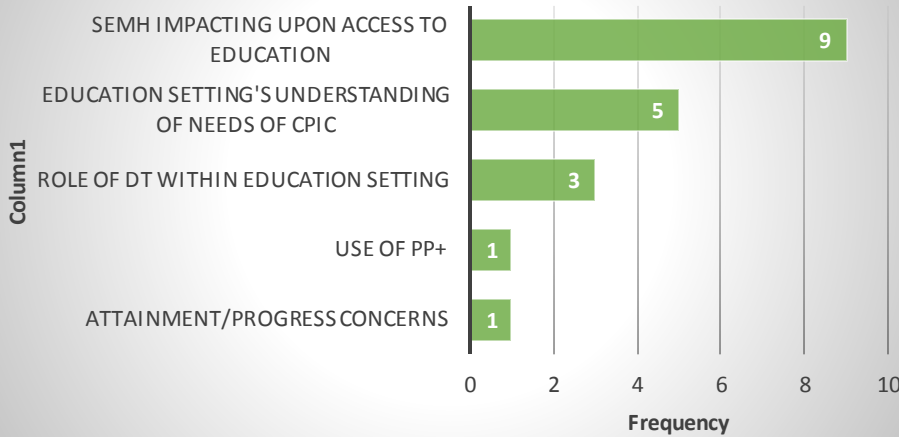
Referrals can be made for advice, guidance and information relating to education. PVS received 19 direct referrals in 2022/23, with most referrals coming directly from parents/guardians (74%). This contrasts with the previous year where the most referrals came from education settings and parent/guardian referrals made up 30% of referrals. This change in source of referrals could be attributed to the enhanced DT training offer and information on the PVS website, providing education settings with greater understanding of their roles and responsibilities without the need for PVS involvement. Most referrals continue to be for primary school aged children with 58% being for children in Key Stage 2. There were no referrals for KS4.



53% of referrals were for children who left care subject to a Special Guardianship Order (SGO). This is down 17% on the previous academic year. In contrast, referrals for children who left care subject to an Adoption Order (AO) were up from 30% to 47%. This could be attributed to improved communication between PVS and the Regional Adoption Agency (RAA) Support Social Workers who are effectively signposting parents and guardians to PVS Services when required.

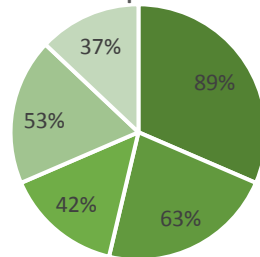
Most referrals are made when a child's Social, Emotional or Mental Health (SEMH) is impacting upon their ability to access their education and the referral is seeking advice or guidance on how to best address this. This is a trend seen in previous years. In contrast to the last academic year, there was a significant decrease in referrals being made regarding the use of Pupil Premium Plus (PP+) for this cohort of children. This could again be attributed to the increased information available for both education settings and parents/guardians regarding the use of PP+.

Main Reason for Referral



Referrals are processed within 7 working days of being made. Most referrals in 2022/23 required a meeting with a parent or guardian and the majority required advice to be given to education settings:

Follow Up Actions



- Meeting with Parent/Guardian
- DT Information Provided to Referrer
- Advice given to education setting
- Sign Posting to other agency/Service
- Multi-Agency meeting attended

Wider Role

The Education Advisor liaises with professionals and parents/guardians to support children previously in care, including:

- attending quarterly support groups
- delivering bespoke trainings to guardians to support their children in education
- liaising with supporting organisations and charities
- member of the Regional Adoption Agency (RAA) Partnership Board which sits quarterly
- part of the Eastern Region PCiC network group

9.2 Children With a Social Worker

Experience now shows that this cohort is fluid and whilst those currently CIN/CP are easily identified, there is not a mechanism for identifying those with a social worker in the previous 6 years. Liquid Logic data from a single point in time was used for those currently with a social worker.

Category	2021-22	2022-23
Child in Need	450	518
Child Protection Plan	209	239
Care Leavers	53	190

Specific barriers faced by the Children with a Social Worker cohort is now integrated into the Designated Teacher and Relational Practice training offers.

An 'Explore More' Day was held to raise career aspirations for Y9 young people. 4 settings (2 LA secondary schools, 1 special school for moderate to severe learning difficulties, 1 pupil referral unit) arranged for a total of 34 students to participate in a variety of interactive workshops led by national companies, lunch and a speed-interviewing session.



The impact of the day was evident in the increased confidence shown by all the young people in how they interacted with the large number of local company volunteers who participated in the interview exercise.

'I do hope there will be more events like this in the future, our students thoroughly enjoyed the day and the opportunities.'

'It was a great day. We've had the photos we took made into a book which looks great!'

10 Development Planning

Peterborough Virtual School Development Plan

Vision

All children known to social care will achieve aspirational educational outcomes enabling them to live happy, healthy and fulfilled lives.

3-Year Outcomes

The work of Peterborough Virtual School is guided through a clear vision and strategic direction

- The Virtual School team is enabled to work effectively within a culture that is proactive, creative and innovative
- Evidence-based practice and high-quality data underpin effective working and demonstrate value and impact
- The Virtual School offer is aligned with need and is responsive to the ever-changing local and national picture

Children and young people have timely access to well-matched education

- Processes and systems ensure compliance with statutory timescales and that drift and delay is minimised
- Senior leaders across education recognise the fundamental difference relational practice can make to children's ability to thrive in school
- The policy and practice of educational settings is aligned to the needs of all children known to social care
- The lived experience of the children is central to all decision making

There is a collective responsibility for the education of children known to social care

- PEPs are robust and meaningful documents and serve as an effective tool for promoting educational outcomes
- There is seamless partnership working across the authority
- Care givers understand the best way to support learning and promote aspirations

 **LEADING LEARNING – REALISING FUTURES** 

10.1 2023-24 Outcomes

The work of Peterborough Virtual School is guided through a clear vision and strategic direction

- The Peterborough Virtual School team has the necessary knowledge, skills and expertise to offer effective service delivery
- The Peterborough Virtual School offer is designed and shared with all key partners
- A Management Board is established to provide a platform for experienced professionals and stakeholders to offer support and challenge to the Virtual School
- Dashboards and trackers are created to support efficient operational functionality and effective reporting
- A clear strategy is defined for the extended remit for children with a social worker
- A clear strategy is defined for the allocation of post-16 pupil premium plus

Children and young people have timely access to well-matched education

- Standardised processes and systems for access and inclusion are established and embedded to guide the work of the education officers
- A strategic offer which influences policy, practice and culture is established and guides the work of the education advisors
- There is an enhanced offer for children attending schools which are not good or outstanding

- Data underpins strategic conversations with education providers
- The relational practice training offer is undertaken within at least one trust to support the development of the physical environment, culture and practice
- Pupil voice is recorded meaningfully within the PEP and informs outcomes

There is a collective responsibility for the education of children known to social care

- Schools and social workers have a robust understanding of PEP quality assurance standards
- Rigorous quality assurance informs the work of the Virtual School
- Progress data from the PEP informs the work of the Virtual School
- The impact of becoming NEET and risk factors leading to this are known and understood by the Virtual School team
- Career pathways are integrated into the PEP and inform planning
- Social care colleagues and care givers, including foster carers access training through a range of resources including e-learning

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Appendix 1 Glossary

Term	Definition	Comments
Attainment 8	The Attainment 8 score is a measure that ensures all students are compared rather than those on the cusp of grade boundaries	<p>This measure was introduced to the KS4 examination system in England because previous measures were not demonstrating attainment from a wide range of subjects.</p> <p>However, the attainment 8 measure can give a negative score to a child who does not sit 8 or more GCSE examinations.</p>
CiC	Children in Care	<p>The statutory guidance refers to looked after children (LAC);</p> <p>The children of Peterborough and Cambridgeshire have rejected this term in favour of Children in Care (CiC).</p>
CiCC	Children in Care Council	A participation group of Children in Care led by the Participation Team.
CPiC	Children Previously in Care	<p>CPiC refers to a child who left care on an order, typically a Special Guardianship Order, Child Arrangement Order or Adoption Order.</p> <p>The Virtual School has a duty to provide information and advice to the parents / guardians, education professionals, and other associated professionals, where the child attends a Peterborough education setting.</p> <p>This was added to the Virtual School remit in September 2018.</p>
CWSW	Children with a Social Worker	<p>CWSW refers to social who are children in need or under a child protection plan or who have been in the past six years.</p> <p>The Virtual School has a non-statutory strategic leadership role to promote education outcomes for this cohort of children.</p> <p>This was added to the virtual school remit in September 2021.</p>
Core Cohort	DfE Core Cohort	<p>The 'Core Cohort' is the criteria used by DfE when it publishes its National attainment data for Children in Care.</p> <p>The child must have been in care for 12 months or more on the 31st March of the assessment year</p>

Term	Definition	Comments
DP	Designated Person	In Early years settings and for Post 16 providers the role is termed DP as the member of staff does not have to be a qualified teacher.
DT	Designated Teacher	It is statutory for all schools to have a designated teacher, whether they currently have children in care on roll or not.
EAL	English as an Additional Language	Children whose first language is other than English.
EHCP	Education Health Care Plan	A document which sets out the education, healthcare and social care needs of a child or young person for whom extra support is needed in school, beyond that which the school can provide.
ESOL	English for Speakers of Other Languages	ESOL courses can include areas such as survival English, functional language, specific speaking and listening skills, and sociocultural information. They often have an element of citizenship training.
EET	Education, Employment or Training	EET refers to young people that have finished year 11 and are in education, employment, or training.
GLD	Good Level of Development	This is the national benchmark for children at the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage (aged 5).
Key Stage (KS)	<p>Early Years Foundation Stage (Pre-school, Nursery and Reception Classes) Age range 0-5</p> <p>Key Stage 1 (Primary School – Years 1 & 2) Age range 5-7</p> <p>Key Stage 2 (Primary School – Years 3 to 6) Age range 7-11</p> <p>Key Stage 3 (Secondary School – Years 7 to 9) Age range 11 – 14</p> <p>Key Stage 4 (Secondary School – Years 10 & 11) Age range 14 – 16</p> <p>Key Stage 5 (Various Destinations) Age Range 16+</p>	The national curriculum is organised into blocks of years called ‘key stages’ (KS). At the end of each key stage, there is a formal assessment.
NEET	Not in Employment Education or Training	NEET refers to young people that have finished year 11 and are not in education, employment, or training.

Term	Definition	Comments
PEP	Personal Education Plan	<p>The PEP is the education plan. It forms part of the wider care planning for the child.</p> <p>This plan is statutory, it is reviewed each term.</p> <p>PEPs begin when a child enrolls in early years education (from aged 2) and continues until the child turns 18.</p> <p>When a young person turns 18 and is in education, PEPs continue until the end of the academic year.</p>
PP+	Pupil Premium Plus	<p>PP+ is additional funding for children in early years provision (the year before they start school) and for children in reception to the end of year 11.</p> <p>The funding is managed by the Virtual School and is used to promote education outcomes.</p>
Progress 8	<p>Progress 8 shows the students' progress across 8 subjects. This is calculated by subtracting the students estimated attainment (calculated from KS2 scores at the end of Primary school) from their actual attainment.</p> <p>This will be shown as a + or -. For example, 0.5 would represent a student being on average half a grade above expectation.</p>	<p>This measure was introduced and replaces previous measures based around the former A*-C grading system for GCSEs.</p> <p>This change was made because the data from the previous examination system did not reflect the progress that a child made over time, from the end of Key Stage 2 to Key Stage 4.</p> <p>The average expected progress score is 0.</p> <p>If fewer than 8 subjects are taken, the score will be reduced further; for example, dropping a subject, will affect the overall score by approximately -0.5.</p>
SAMs	Statutory Assessment and Monitoring Service	Responsible for children and young people with an EHCP and Special Educational Needs.
Statistical Neighbours	<p>Peterborough's Statistical Neighbours are:</p> <p>Bolton, Derby, Medway, Plymouth, Portsmouth, Rotherham, Sheffield, Southampton, Telford & Wrekin and Walsall</p>	<p>A list produced by Department for Education (DfE) that provides each Authority with a list of statistically similar authorities based on demographic data.</p> <p>The list is periodically updated, often in the years following the National Census</p> <p>This allows for more statistically significant comparisons than just the national data.</p>
SMC	Separated Migrant Child	Separated Migrant Children (SMC) are children and young people who are seeking asylum in the UK but who have been separated from their parents or carers.

Term	Definition	Comments
		While their claim is processed, they are cared for by a local authority.

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CHILDREN AND EDUCATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM No. 7
15 JANUARY 2024	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:	Jon Chapman: Chair of Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Safeguarding Children Partnership Board	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Cllr Ray Bisby, Cabinet Member for Children’s Services	
Contact Officer(s):	Joanne Procter Head of Service - Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Safeguarding Partnership Board	Email: Joanne.procter@peterborough.gov.uk

CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARTNERSHIP BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23

RECOMMENDATIONS	
From: Jon Chapman: Chair of Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Safeguarding Children Partnership Board	Deadline date: N/A
<p>It is recommended that the Children and Education Scrutiny Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Committee members are asked to note the contents of the annual report. 	

1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

1.1 The Children and Social Work Act 2017 places a responsibility on the three safeguarding partners in each local authority area, these being the local authority, the local Integrated Care System and the chief officer of police, to make arrangements to work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children in their area.

Within Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, the three safeguarding partners are supported in fulfilling this responsibility through the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Safeguarding Children Partnership Board. The three safeguarding partners are also required by statute (Children and Social Work Act 2017, S18) to publish an annual report detailing their progress.

This report is submitted to the Children and Education Scrutiny Committee for information purposes.

2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

2.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Children and Education Scrutiny Committee members with a summary of both the work of the Safeguarding Children Partnership Board and the work of the sub committees and highlight the significant events from April 2022- March 2023.

3.2 This report is for the Children and Education Scrutiny Committee to consider under its Terms of Reference Part 3, Section 4 - Overview and Scrutiny Functions, paragraph No. 2.1 Functions determined by Council:

- 1. *Children's Services including*
 - a) *Social Care of Children;*
 - b) *Safeguarding;*
 - c) *Children's Health*

3. TIMESCALES

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	NO	If yes, date for Cabinet meeting	
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4. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

4.1 The annual report summarises both the work of the Safeguarding Children Partnership Board and the work of the sub committees and highlights the significant events from April 2022- March 2023. It recognises areas of good practice and presents information about partnership safeguarding.

Safeguarding is about people, their safety, wishes, aspirations and needs. The partnership has been active in identifying and learning lessons through the Children's Safeguarding Practice Review subgroup. We have published three case reviews within the time period covered by this review. The learning from these reviews has been identified and disseminated through various activities including briefings, workshops and learning lessons training. All of the cases have recommendations, these recommendations are made into action plans. Progress against the actions is monitored through the Board and follow up assurances of the impact of the recommendations takes place. In addition, every two years we undertake an in-depth review of the themes arising from our case reviews. This provides an additional layer of assurance and allows us to identify repeat themes. The dissemination of the learning is explored in greater detail within the report.

In the time period covered by this annual report we have focussed on our priority areas, child neglect, sexual abuse and child exploitation. We have updated and developed resources including training, toolkits and strategic documents. We have engaged our workforce to try and gain a better understanding of the barriers and issues faced by front line practitioners when working in these three areas of abuse. This feedback has been used as a central feature of the work we have undertaken.

The national Centre for Expertise on child sexual abuse has been a key member of our CSA workstream and acted as a critical friend in the work we have undertaken. Their insight and input have been invaluable in taking this work forward.

We have worked with all of our partner agencies over the last 12 months, particular examples include education colleagues and the education development of safer space and safer corridors toolkits. We have also worked with our community safety partnership colleagues across the county to develop and pilot cuckooing pathways, assisted with the production of child exploitation awareness films and delivered community awareness sessions. We have also been instrumental in delivering problem solving training across the partnership.

A lot of development work has been undertaken in the last 12 months, our focus in 2023-24 will be on evaluating the impact of the work we have undertaken. Planned evaluation and impact activity includes;

- Feedback from Children and young people
- Feedback from practitioners
- Multi-agency audits
- Single agency self-assessment (S.11) audit
- Development of dataset
- Evaluation and impact of training and resources

Our multi-agency safeguarding training programme has continued to be well attended. Just under 2,000 people accessed training and the virtual briefings have been viewed a total 23,000 times in the time period covered by this report.

The virtual training continues to be greatly received with 99% of professionals reporting that they felt that the safeguarding virtual training content met their training needs (up 1% from last year) and 99% of professionals said they would recommend the courses to other people.

The report has been brought to the Children and Education Scrutiny Committee for information purposes.

5. CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- 5.1 The report, in its entirety, links to the Prevention, Independence & Resilience (Children's) and Places & Communities priorities.

6. CONSULTATION

- 6.1 No consultation was required as part of this work.

7. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT

- 7.1 To provide members with an enhanced understanding of the work of the Safeguarding Children Partnership Board in 2022-23.

8. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION

- 8.1 There is a statutory requirement for the annual report to be produced.

9. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 9.1 As detailed above there is a statutory requirement for the annual report to be produced.

10. IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

- 10.1 *There are no financial implications arising from the report*
Legal Implications

- 10.2 *There are no legal implications arising from the report*
Equalities Implications

- 10.3 *There are no equalities implications arising from the report*

11. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

- 11.1 Non-Applicable

12. APPENDICES

- 12.1 Appendix 1 - The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Safeguarding Children Partnership Board Annual Report 2022-223.

Appendix 1

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FORWARD

We are pleased to present the annual report of the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Safeguarding Children's Partnership Board for 2022-23. This is presented on behalf of the three statutory partners and the local multi-agency safeguarding arrangements.

The annual report outlines the key activities and achievements of the Board and its partners over the last year. You will see in the report that we have continued to work on our priority areas this year. The multi-agency safeguarding training has continued to develop and grow, front line practitioners' voices have been captured through a series of consultation surveys and forums and quality assurance and scrutiny activity has taken place. One of the key roles of the Board is to ensure that partners continue to work together effectively and this has been evidenced throughout the year. We continue to work closely with other partnerships to ensure that the work is delivered jointly and consistently and there is no duplication or gaps.

Safeguarding is about people, their safety, wishes, aspirations and needs. The partnership has been active in identifying and learning lessons through the Child Safeguarding Practice Review subgroup. We have published 4 reviews within the time period covered by this report. The learning from these reviews has been identified and disseminated through various activities including briefings, workshops and learning lessons training. The dissemination of the learning is explored in greater detail within the report.

In the last year, the Board has continued to work closely with both statutory and wider partners to scrutinise how safeguarding issues are addressed, gain reassurance that they are dealt with appropriately and provide a forum for sharing best practice across the partnership. It has also ensured that safeguarding children remains a key focus for agencies across the County.

Finally, we would like to thank all members of the Board for their professionalism, commitment and support. We would also like to say thank you to all agencies and frontline staff for the incredible work that they do to keep children safe from abuse and neglect.

Elaine Redding

(Interim) Executive Director, People and Communities



Carol Anderson

Chief Nurse



Cambridgeshire & Peterborough



Vicki Evans

Assistant Chief Constable



Creating a safer
Cambridgeshire

ABOUT THE BOARD

Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018, set in statutory guidance that the three safeguarding partners (Local Authority, Chief Officer of Police and Integrated Care Board) must work together with relevant agencies to safeguard and protect the welfare of children in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough

Locally, we have established multi-agency safeguarding arrangements which span two local authority boundaries. The membership of the board is made up of the following organisations/agencies:



What we do

The purpose of the multi-agency safeguarding arrangements are to support and enable local organisations and agencies to work together in a system where:

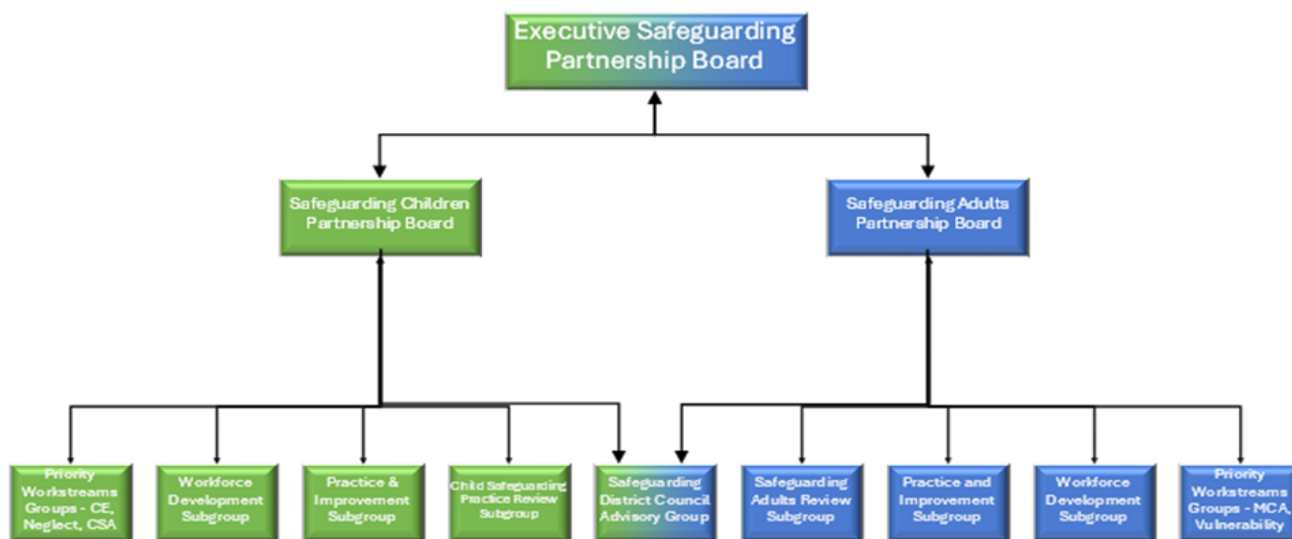


Funding for the Board is made up of contributions from the two Local authorities, Cambridgeshire Constabulary, ICB, CCS, CPFT, NWAFT, Papworth, CUH and Probation.

We do this by:



The local safeguarding arrangements have several Boards and subgroups that oversee the safeguarding partnership. The most senior Board is the Executive Safeguarding Partnership Board, which is made up of membership from the 3 statutory partners (LA, ICB and Police). In addition, there are members from public health and the voluntary sector. The Executive Safeguarding Board considers both the children’s and adults safeguarding agenda. The Safeguarding Children Partnership Board sits directly below the Executive Safeguarding Partnership Board and has wider partnership membership (Appendix 1 details those agencies who are members of the Board). The diagram below details the current safeguarding partnership governance structure.



The Safeguarding Children Partnership Board has maintained its links with other groups and boards who impact on child and adult services this year. This ensures that aspects of safeguarding are considered by the other statutory boards and there is a co-ordinated and consistent approach.

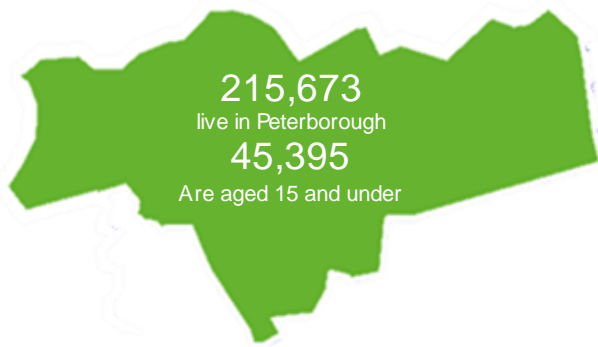


DEMOGRAPHICS



The county of Cambridgeshire covers an area 1,309 sq miles in the East of England bordering Lincolnshire to the north, Norfolk to the north-east, Suffolk to the east, Essex and Hertfordshire to the south, and Bedfordshire and Northamptonshire to the west. The county is divided between Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council, which since 1998 has formed a separate unitary authority. In the non-metropolitan county there are five district councils, Cambridge City Council, East Cambridgeshire District Council, Fenland District Council, Huntingdonshire District Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council.

Snapshot of Peterborough



49% Male



51% Female

542

Assessed as Homeless

24

Rough Sleepers

104

Traveller caravans on authorised and non authorised sites

12,323

Contacts raised during the year

2528

Referrals initiated

20%

Of referrals were re-referrals

2035

Single Assessments completed

89%

Single Assessments completed within timescale

558

Section 47s completed

38%

Of Section 47s led to an Initial Child Protection Conference

2226

Early Help Assessments initiated

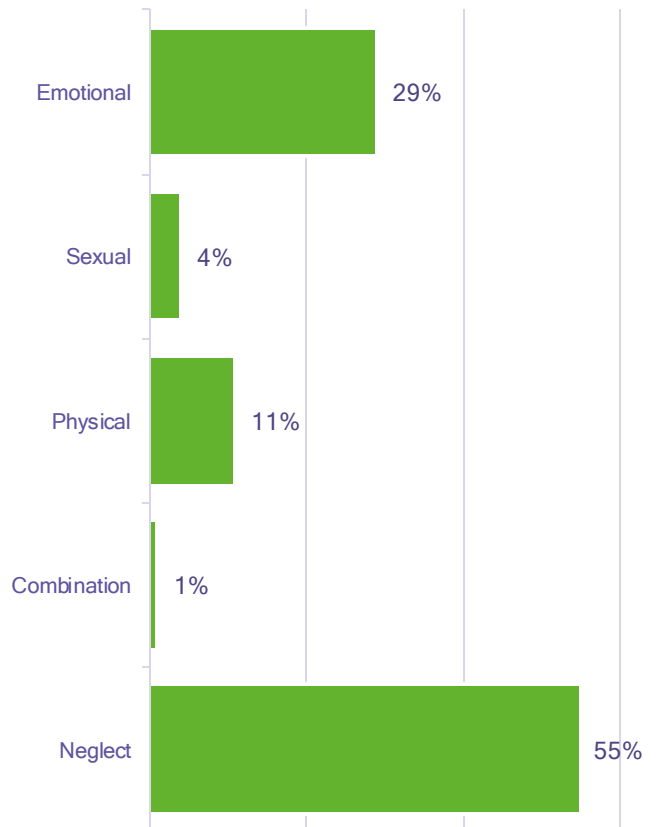
136

Children subject to a Child Protection Plan

412

Children in Care

Category of Abuse on CP Plan



226

Number of missing from home episodes

226

Number of missing from care episodes

Above information received from local authority performance team

Snapshot of Cambridgeshire



49% Male



51% Female

1258

Assessed as Homeless

51

Rough Sleepers

1644

Traveller caravans on authorised and non authorised sites

24,581

Contacts raised during the year

4,310

Referrals initiated

20%

Of referrals were re-referrals

4,367

Single Assessments completed

53%

Single Assessments completed within timescale

1,324

Section 47s completed

30%

Of Section 47s led to an Initial Child Protection Conference

5,334

Early Help Assessments initiated

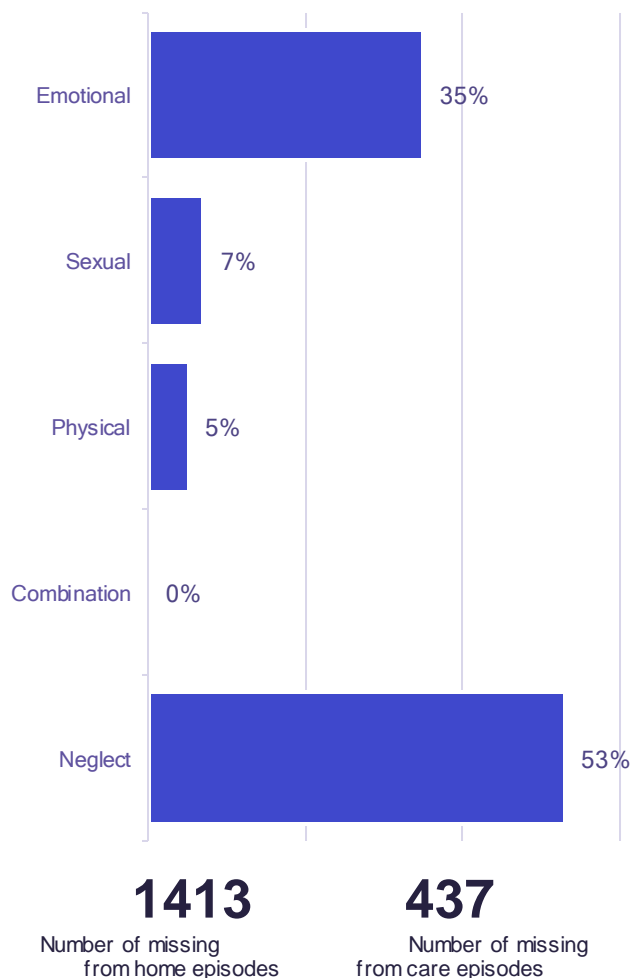
287

Children subject to a Child Protection Plan

655

Children in Care

Category of Abuse on CP Plan



Above information received from local authority performance team

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARTNERSHIP BOARD PRIORITIES 2022/2023

Each priority work area has its own dedicated work stream and action plan, progress is reported as part of a standard agenda item at each Safeguarding Children Partnership Board meeting. This ensures work is progressed and activity is held to account.

Priority One: To understand what the neglect landscape looks like across the county and embed the neglect strategies and tools across the partnership to achieve better outcomes for children and their families

Neglect continues to remain the most common form of child abuse across the UK. Partners across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough aim to ensure that there is early recognition of neglect cases and that from early help to statutory intervention there should be appropriate, consistent and timely responses across all agencies. A multi-agency neglect workstream has been established to progress this area of work. In the last 12 months we have put the following actions in place;

Delivery of parenting courses through targeted support

Early years knowledge hub updated with neglect resources

Single agency neglect audits undertaken by CSC - including audits of children on Child Protection plans for neglect

Development of community team initiatives targeted at easing pressures associated with cost of living

Damp and mould review undertaken of every property by social landlord

Increased access to foodbanks

Development of a suite of neglect training for practitioners to access

Developed and disseminated a neglect 7 minute briefing

Commenced a review into the partnership neglect assessment tool

Commenced a practitioner survey into good practice and barriers to working with neglect

Commenced rewrite of partnership neglect strategy based on feedback from quality assurance activity, practitioner feedback and reviews

Our introduction to Child Neglect virtual training (Sway) received 2,154 views

Our virtual training on the Graded Care Profile received 1,472 views

Our virtual training on safeguarding and No Recourse to Public Funds received 214 views

102 people attended our virtual and in person neglect training

A lot of development work has been undertaken in the last 12 months, our focus in 2023-24 will be on evaluating the impact of the work we have undertaken. Planned evaluation and impact activity includes;

Feedback from Children and young people

Feedback from practitioners

Multi-agency audit of neglect cases

Single agency self-assessment (S.11) audit

Development of neglect dataset

Evaluation and impact of training and resources

Priority Two: To understand what the sexual abuse landscape looks like across the county and embed the child sexual abuse strategy and tools across the partnership to achieve better outcomes for children and their families

The last four decades have been witness to a changing landscape of language and framings for Child Sexual Abuse (CSA). The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Safeguarding Children Partnership Board recognises the need for cases of CSA to be acknowledged and addressed and as such it is one of the core objectives of its work. A multi-agency child sexual abuse workstream has been established to progress this area of work. In the last 12 months we have put the following actions in place;

SARC paediatric pathway reviewed, refreshed and relaunched.

Using our local sexual behaviour tool virtual training (Sway) received 1,211 views

Our sexual violence and safeguarding virtual training (Sway) received 266 views

Our online abuse virtual training (Sway) received 156 views

Our FGM resource virtual training (Sway) received 794 views

National Centre of Expertise on CSA, member of our workstream group and acting as a critical friend in our development work.

Work on CSA and safe relationships reviewed to ensure appropriateness of language and content

Frontline practitioner workshops held to understand the current barriers to working with CSA

Benchmarked existing CSA strategy and now in process of refreshing

National Centre of Expertise on CSA working with CPFT regarding cambs pathways and CSA

Practitioner briefing on CSA developed and launched

National Centre of Expertise on CSA worked with CSC to deliver specific training on

- (i) Supervising cases of CSA (2 day)
- (ii) Introduction to Intra-Familial Child Sexual Abuse
- (iii) Intra-Familial Child Sexual Abuse for Social Workers (2 day)

Process within MASH strengthened so that no case that comes in with sexual abuse as the referring reason is closed without oversight of the service manager

All secondary schools across Cambs and Peterborough have received an updated Safer Corridors Action Toolkit - providing opportunity for work to be completed with students around challenging the culture throughout the school - in more informal times/areas. This is to eliminate sexual harassment in a school

Safer Spaces Action Toolkit has been launched for primary schools. Every Cambs and Peterborough primary has received a copy to use in school. The toolkit is for use with Key Stage 2 pupils

Single Online Home' reporting mechanism for reporting of rape and sexual assault through a dedicated pathway

A lot of development work has been undertaken in the last 12 months, our focus in 2023-24 will be on evaluating the impact of the work we have undertaken. Planned evaluation and impact activity includes;

Development of new strategy and resources based on feedback from activity detailed above

Feedback from children and young people

Feedback from practitioners

Multi-agency audit of CSA cases

Single agency self-assessment (S.11) audit

Development of CSA dataset

Evaluation and impact of training and resources

Priority Three: To agree a multi-agency approach to identifying, assessing and responding to cases of child criminal exploitation. To develop an effective approach to identifying at risk groups and preventing them from being exploited

Child Exploitation (CE) is increasingly being recognised as a major factor behind crime in communities in the UK; it also victimises vulnerable young people and leaves them at risk of harm. A multi-agency child exploitation workstream is in place to progress this area of work. In the last 12 months we have put the following actions in place;

Developed and piloted a contextual safeguarding model which includes working in partnership with our Community Safety Partnerships through their problem solving groups. Successful pilot, model to be launched 2023/24

Development of fire break course aimed at children involved in exploitation. Working alongside Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue services to learn new skills and develop confidence. 9 courses run and approximately 108 students completed the course.

Continued to provide a fully updated and refreshed 6 weekly online training session 'Working with Child Exploitation'

Supported Peer Group and Places within Cambridge City Community Safety Partnership as a trial to implement a contextual safeguarding framework. We are now rolling this process out more widely across authority areas

Launch of cuckooing pathway piloted in Peterborough with a view to implementing across both authority areas. The launch includes an academic review in partnership with Anglia Ruskin University in Cambridge

Production of two local films called 'Cambs against County Lines' rolled out across all secondary education settings in response to child and practitioner feedback of needing something local, the production was managed through Cambridge City CSP and funded by the OPCC.

Cambs Against County Lines also delivered to Cambridge United staff and at a primary school Parents' Forum.

Delivered 'Train the Facilitator' sessions to enable school staff and youth workers to use the Cambs Against County Lines film with their children and young people. These have been delivered to people across Cambs and Peterborough, as well as YOS staff and staff at primary schools

Created an info flyer about County Lines for parents - this was in consultation with parents of primary school children who had requested it. This has been emailed to schools and is on the Cambs and Peterborough Safeguarding Partnership Board website.

160 partners trained in problem solving over 4 sessions hosted by Cambridgeshire Police in support of contextual safeguarding

'Kids Safety Net' project launched across both authority areas in partnership with NSPCC and Healthy Schools. The project aims to raise awareness for both children and adults about keeping safe online. We have had face to face conferences for everyone as well as online resources and a poster competition

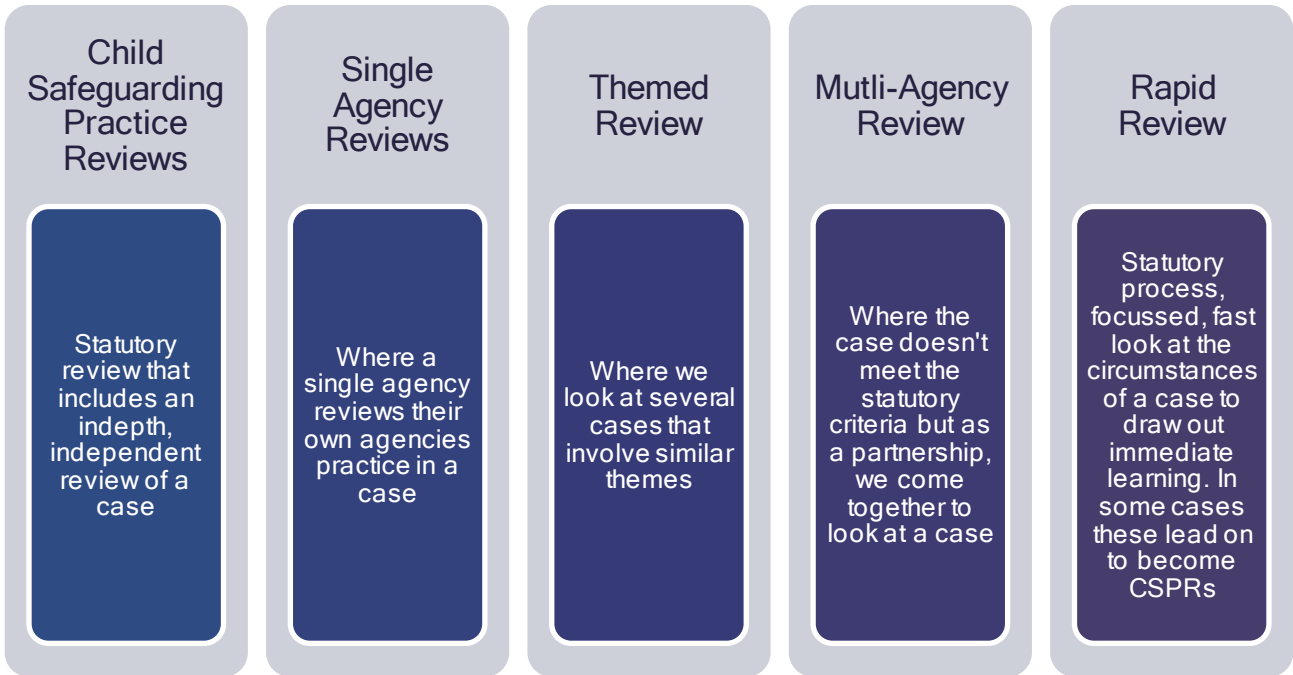
Development of animated primary school awareness packs concerning Child Exploitation, this was as a direct result of feedback from teachers and children that they needed something similar to 'Cambs against County Lines' but pitched at a younger audience

Working alongside Huntingdonshire CSP to raise awareness of exploitation to parents and carers by holding evening drop-in sessions and providing resources

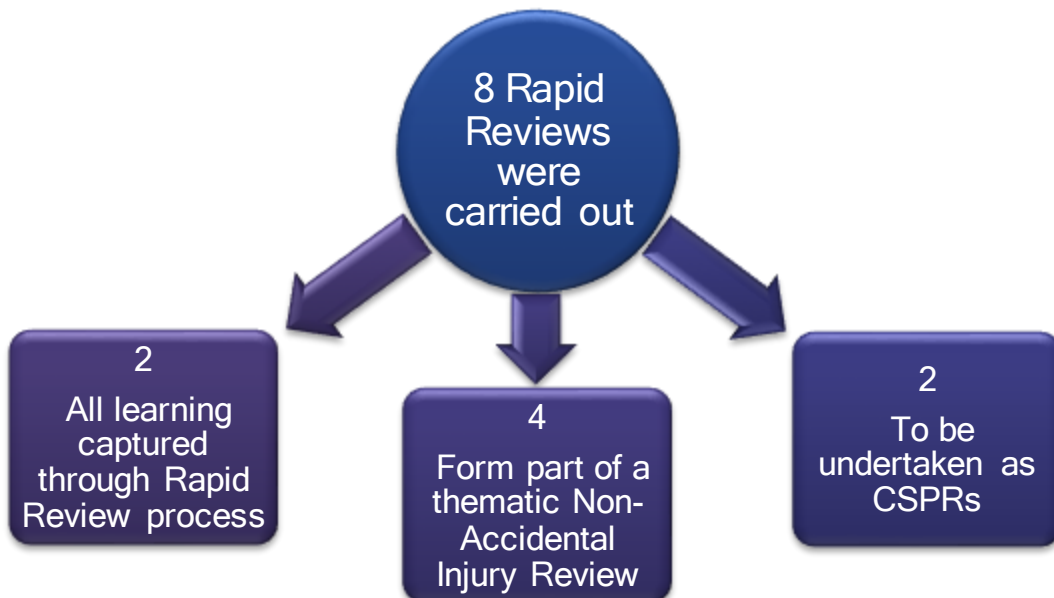
The OPCC has supported through funding the County Lines (Dex) materials. We are sharing this with our Independent Custody Visitors (ICVs) as part of an overall training package

LEARNING FROM PRACTICE REVIEWS

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough has a strong culture of wanting to learn lessons from practice, evidenced through our local approach to undertaking learning from a range of cases. This includes looking at those cases that meet the statutory criteria for a local child safeguarding practice review (CSPR) but also having the flexibility to consider cases that do not meet the statutory criteria but involve systems learning. Within the partnership we undertake;



In the timescale covered by this report;



3 CSPRs were published between April 2022 and March 2023

Stephen

Child Death caused through
Physical abuse

Domestic Abuse

Abusive Head Trauma

Nadia

Suicide

Mental Health

Historical Sexual Assault and
ongoing Mental Health concerns

Child D

Sexual Abuse

Neglect

No Recourse to Public Funds,
effect of Covid and lockdown

Main themes arising from our review activity

All recommendations and actions arising from our case reviews are monitored through a live action tracker. Progress against these actions are monitored at each CSPR sub group meeting and agencies are held to account for their progress.

At the completion of each case review a series of resources, including practitioner briefings, training slides and 7 minute briefings are produced and disseminated across the partnership. In addition, lessons learnt are disseminated through the various workstreams and workshops are held with practitioners.

The following themes were identified through our CSPR's

Child Factors

Over half involved
children under 1

Just over half were
males

Increase in cases
involving significant
harm rather than
death

Majority of cases
were physical
abuse, followed by
neglect and CSA

Parental / Carer Factors

Mental health concerns

Alcohol and substance misuse

Moving between LA areas

Domestic abuse

Professional Factors

Lack of information sharing

Little evidence of lived experience of the child

Lack of professional curiosity

Lack of escalation/challenge

Relevant agencies not at strategy discussions

Good Practice

Evidence of trusted relationships (often with school staff)

Continuity of professionals

Flexible approach to working

CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH CHILD DEATH OVERVIEW PANEL

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough CDOP were notified of 46 deaths of children and young people during the period from 1st April 2022 until 31st March 2023. There has been a 33% increase in the number of child deaths in comparison to 2021/22 although there are no clear themes to account for this increase.

CDOP held a thematic review of child deaths by suicide from 2019 – 2022. The group used the NCMD's 'suicide in children and young people' report (October 2021) which identified the common characteristics of children and young people who died by suicide. The identified characteristics were discussed for each of the deaths by suicide locally to ascertain whether they applied to each of the children reviewed. A total of 11 cases were reviewed, which was the same number as the previous thematic review carried out in 2018.

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE STATUTORY SAFEGUARDING PARTNERS

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Local Authority Children Services

- To strengthen the response to CSA :
 - Implemented a process where a Service Manager in the IFD must give management oversight on any case where sexual abuse is a factor.
 - workshops on assessments have been updated to ensure CSA and risk assessment tools are highlighted.
 - In-house learning now includes sessions on: Modern Slavery and Trafficking; main Safeguarding Children offer; L&D have commissioned bespoke training on CSA from the Centre of Expertise on Child Sexual Abuse.
 - Bespoke briefing notes for the whole service on CSPRs where sexual abuse has been a factor have been produced by QA to supplement material distributed by the Safeguarding Board.
 - Promotion of external learning opportunities via PSW and L&D – e.g. Centre of Expertise on Child Sexual Abuse workshops and briefings; Making Research Count offer; local events on Child Sex Trafficking with Anglia Ruskin University (following a collaboration on a research project over the past 2-3 years with the presenter) alongside curated learning guides on each QA audit briefing and workshop
- Learning from CSPR's has been strengthened and workshops were held during early 2023 with over 120 attendees from across children Services.
- A number of complaints were received into children's social care during 2022, relating to the assessment process. As a direct response a child and family assessment leaflet was produced to assist families in gaining a better understanding of the assessment process.
- There is a well embedded EDI offer through monthly sessions, ensuring the workforce embraces diversity and has a safe space to discuss any pertinent EDI matters.
- The family hubs have been established to offer early targeted support to children and their families .
- A RAPS team (rehabilitation back home team) has been established in Peterborough with an aim that more children in care can be successfully and safely returned to their families. The team is in its infancy but already a number of children have been identified as potentially being

able to return home and work is progressing to support this. Within Cambridgeshire this team has been long established with good outcomes.

- The quality assurance service continues to carry out a wide range of activity to support practice improvement. A robust audit programme is in place and learning is disseminated widely across all services. This ensures that managers and leaders have a clear line of sight to practice, and that good practice is identified as well as areas for development.
- During 2022 Children and Young People worked on the 'Every Word Matters' project, looking at the language used around children with social care experience, sharing views and feelings on certain words and suggesting alternatives. In addition to supporting each participation group to provide their feedback on the project, focus groups for three different age groups in the October half term to gather views from young people were held. The focus groups included an engaging lyric writing workshop led by a local award-winning Music Practitioner and Rap Lyricist.
- The annual Virtual Art Exhibition was held in October 2022 and comprised of 39 pieces of art submitted by children and young people in Peterborough and Cambridgeshire. Many of the art pieces were produced in workshops and were later gifted to local family contact centres so they can be enjoyed by children and families who use those spaces.
- The CiCC continue to meet in person on a monthly basis to work on their own projects as well as look at consultation requests, meet professionals and give feedback on services. Consultations during 2022/2023 with children and young people in care have included a co-production request in relation to the Virtual School website revamp and looking at an ePEP App to seek views from children and young people about their educational progress and support needs.
- The CiCC invited the Peterborough Youth MP to a meeting to look at what wellbeing meant to them. The Youth MP will feed their discussion into UK Youth Parliament research on health and wellbeing which will directly inform their national priorities.
- The Young Inspectors completed re-inspections of some of the Supervised Contact Centres in the October half term, to ascertain whether their recommendations had been implemented by the service. The Young Inspectors were also involved in creating a mural for one of the centres alongside local artists during the October 2022 half term. The group has demonstrated its commitment to the project and was recognised by being nominated for, and winning, the Coram Voice 'A National Voice' Participation award on 25 October 2022.
- The Young Trainers continue to deliver training to prospective foster carers and have received excellent feedback from attendees. The Fostering Service reported that some prospective carers widened the age range of children they would like to work with to include teenagers, following the training and discussion with young people.

NHS Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Integrated Care Board

Over the past year Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group has transitioned into an Integrated Care Board. A statutory NHS organisation responsible for developing a plan for meeting the health needs of the population, managing the NHS budget and arranging for the provision of health services in the Integrated Care System (ICS) area. This includes effective joint working with partner agencies, professionals and voluntary groups so that vulnerable groups in the community are protected from harm, encompassing a "think family" and "making safeguarding personal" approach.

The role of the Safeguarding People Team is to provide support to the health system and provide ongoing monitoring and assurance of safeguarding practice. The team work proactively to identify and respond to local safeguarding needs alongside regional and national priorities. These include learning from the National Safeguarding Practice Review Panel reports, new legislation such as the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 and Serious Violence Duty 2022 and practice developments.

Please see below a summary of some of the safeguarding people team activity this year:

- Task and finish groups are established across health providers locally in Mental Capacity and Serious Violence to ensure robust implementation.
- The team have established a health training subgroup to implement a local training passport to support NHS practitioners who move between providers, development of a safeguarding apprenticeship role and a safeguarding specific student nurse placement.
- Between April 2022 - March 2023 the Safeguarding People team responded to a total of 284 enquiries, 168 of which related to safeguarding adults, 86 to safeguarding children, 7 to children in care and 23 in relation to MCA/DoLS. The most common themes for enquiries were neglect (52 enquiries), domestic abuse (32 enquiries) and physical abuse (25 cases).
- The Safeguarding People team had 538 interactions with Primary Care staff in relation to safeguarding, via safeguarding lead forums, training sessions or for 1-1 case discussions.
- The Safeguarding Primary Care Nurses have completed a Primary Care specific Section 11 and adult safeguarding assurance audit with 100% compliance, learning from this will direct future support, supervision, and training development. Guidance has also been produced to support virtual consultations to ensure the voice of the child/ vulnerable adult is considered in all consultations.
- The Designated Doctor has led the partnership board workstream on child sexual abuse to improve identification and response to children who have experienced child sexual abuse.
- The ICB safeguarding team continues to support and embed the learning following significant incidents and local and national safeguarding practice reviews across the system.

The Designate Nurse for Children in Care continues to ensure that the health needs for children in care are addressed. A small sample questionnaire was completed to gather feedback from children in care and their experience of Child in Care health reviews, the overwhelming response was that young people preferred face to face appointments as opposed to virtual/telephone calls.

As the Safeguarding People Team move into 2023-24, they will continue to align their priorities with that of the Joint Forward Plan and the Partnership Safeguarding Board and will continue to influence the system wide culture, ensuring that safeguarding is everyone's business and that staff have the right skills and knowledge to recognise and report safeguarding concerns.

Cambridgeshire Constabulary

- 18% increase in the number of Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) and Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) offences than previous twelve months (July 2023). Successful prosecutions continue to trend upwards mainly down to the hard work and dedication from all involved in Safeguarding Children.
- The response to Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) has led police forces nationally to demand improvements in our own performance and approach. The enduring partnership

support has been invaluable in guiding our response to these challenges and generating new, positive initiatives and successful outcomes.

- Last year we have seen two of our VAWG campaigns receive national recognition, The campaigns were named the regional winners in two categories at the inaugural Policing Violence Against Women and Girls' Recognition awards.
 - 'Know Violence Against Women', which focused on encouraging men to identify and call out misogynistic, harassing and sexually violent behaviour, won in the Making Spaces Safer category.
 - While the force's joint campaign with White Ribbon UK and two local football teams, which brought men and boys together to think about how they can make a positive difference and achieve equality and safety for women and girls, won in the effective working with children and young people category.
- Following the success of our Vulnerability Focus Desks which have been established for well over a year now, we have expanded them to include our Prevention Hubs and Out of Court disposal teams (Prevention Vulnerability Desks). Situated North and South of the county with a duty officer, they are there to assist our frontline staff in ensuring positive outcomes can be achieved for victims when a charge is not possible.
- Children exposed to DA continue to be specifically identified and supported within enhanced protocols, capturing the Voice of the Child, and protective steps are then initiated while one of the three OPCC funded perpetrator programmes, focuses on Child to Parent Violence and institutes a diversionary programme to greatly reduce the risk of reoffending and harm.
- Our Missing Exploited and Trafficked (MET) Hub now the CE Hub continues to work with the Local Authority SAFE Team and our own Young Persons Early Intervention Officer in order to engage with children at risk of exploitation and divert them from a cycle of harm, abuse, and criminality.
- Our dedicated Child Abuse Investigation and Safeguarding Units continue to produce remarkable results despite unprecedented demand and are responsible for embedding learning from Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews. They also lead on providing vital child protection and child death protocol training across the constabulary.
- Co-ordination and governance of this activity is supported through the Constabulary's VAWG strategy which is well embedded. This contains four strands: Project Kaizen (Domestic Abuse); Project Eleos (Serious Sexual Offending); Project Boyd (Offender Management); and Project Artemis (CSE / CSA).
- As we look ahead to the next twelve months, we remain confident that through our partnership structures, oversight, and critical friend challenge within the Board we will meet the above challenges successfully.



SCRUTINY AND QUALITY ASSURANCE

Requirement for independent scrutiny

Working Together 2018 stipulates that the partnership has a duty to show **there is independent scrutiny** to provide assurance in judging the effectiveness of multi-agency arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children in a local area, including arrangements to identify and review serious child safeguarding cases. This independent scrutiny can form part of a wider system which includes the independent inspectorates, single assessment of the individual safeguarding partners and the Joint Targeted Area Inspections.

The table below evidences the methods of scrutiny of the partnership arrangements across both adults and children's

What we scrutinise	Activity
Single agency operational practice	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality of single agency and multi-agency practice • Decision making • Professional challenge/ escalation • Impact/outcomes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single agency quality assurance activity. • Single agency inspections. • Serious incidents. • Performance management information.
Partnership working and multi-agency practice	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single agency and multi-agency practice • Decision making • Professional challenge/ escalation • Impact/outcomes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independent scrutiny of Case reviews through independent chair of the case review groups. • Head of Service for Safeguarding Partnership Boards chairs some of the case review panel meetings. • Independent authors for case reviews. • JTAI and other inspections. • S11 self-assessment and adult equivalent – this includes agency challenge sessions. • Regular QA assurance activity undertaken by business unit staff, including audits, surveys, thematic reviews, dip samples and case reviews. • Surveys and consultations with children and young people, parents and professionals. • Multi-agency workforce development feedback and impact process.

Multi Agency Scrutiny and Assurance Activity

Single Agency Performance Commentary is completed by partner agencies on a quarterly basis, and includes information regarding what is working well and areas of concern within their agency. This process has worked well, and as a result we have seen a number of positive impacts including,

improvements in dental pathways, improvements in information sharing, improved agency engagement and pooling of resources.

Section 11 Self-Assessment Audit. This audit is undertaken, in line with the Children Act 2004, every two years, to ascertain if agencies across the partnership are effectively safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people in accordance with their section 11 statutory responsibilities. The audit commenced in March 2023 and findings will be reported on in the 2023-24 Annual report.

Section 11 practitioner survey. This survey is undertaken alongside the S11 self assessment audit and we use the findings to see if they concur with what agencies have told us in their self assessment audit. We have a strong history of practitioner engagement with this survey and usually receive over 500 responses from across the partnership. The staff survey was circulated in March 2023 and findings will be reported on in the 2023-24 Annual report.

Mock JTAI Child Exploitation Audit- This audit was commenced in February 2023 and concluded in April 2023 and findings will be reported on in the 2023-24 Annual report.

Thematic Review of the Child, Parent and Professional Themes found within Local Rapid Reviews and Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews from January 2021- March 2023 – This audit focussed on the themes arising from local rapid reviews and case reviews. The local findings mirrored those identified in national research. These included the areas already described on pages xx – xx of this report. The findings from the audits have been shared with the CSPR sub group and actions put in place to address the areas of improvement.

Multi Agency Training Annual report – An analysis of the training delivered in 2022, through the safeguarding children partnership board workforce development programme has taken place. The findings are discussed in more detail in the section below.

All audit and quality assurance activity results in recommendations and actions. Progress against the actions is monitored and tracked to ensure that they are actioned.

MULTI-AGENCY SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

2024 people attended the Boards training

Virtual Briefings (Sways) were viewed 22,917 times

99% of attendees reported that they felt the safeguarding training met their needs

100% of attendees said the training met the course aims and objectives

99% of attendees said the delivery of virtual training worked for them

98% of attendees said delivery of training was viewed as clear, helpful and engaging

99% of attendees stated that they would recommend the training course to others

100% of attendees rated the organisation of training as Good or Excellent

Evidence of impact

“

The training gave me the confidence and knowledge to formulate management plans for complex cases

100%

Attendees said their knowledge had improved as a result of attending the training

“

I now know what information to include in my DASH referral and how this is used. Since completing the course I have used the information I learnt and my referrals are much better quality

“

In my day-to-day assessment of needs / Observation / I am being more vigilant whenever carer or family are giving information related to patient and monitor behaviour / Awareness during conversations to pick up on any indication of potential exploitation

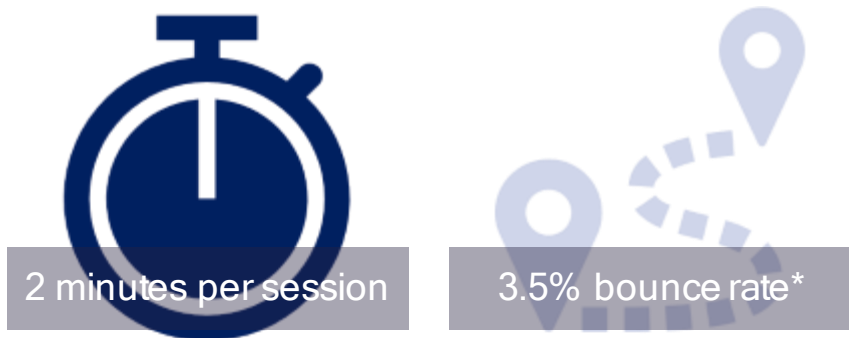
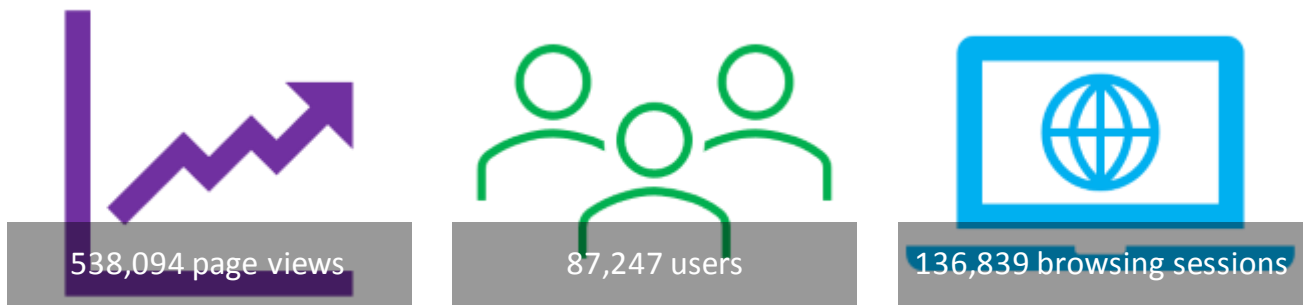
“

I am now working in collaboration with other agencies to support individuals at risk of of abuse and am more confident in knowing where further support can be obtained

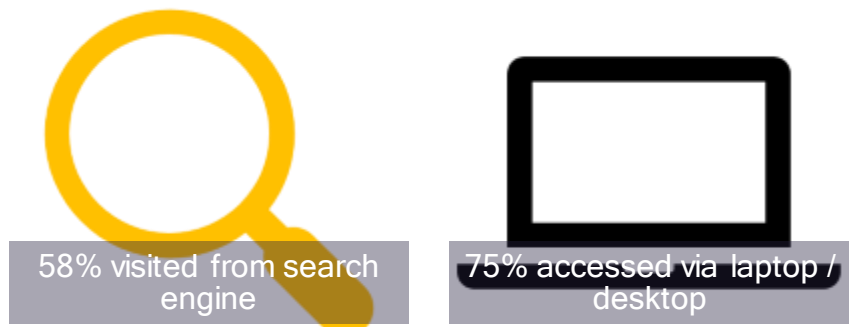
“

I now know which tools to use and am using them!

WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA



* Bounce rate represents the percentage of visitors who enter the site and then leave rather than continuing to view other pages within the same site. Bounce rate of 40% or lower is considered good, higher bounce rates indicates improvements are needed to engage visitors and encourage them to explore the site.



Apart from the home page, the 'Making a Referral' page was the most visited page on the site, followed by Multi-agency Training page and our virtual SWAY briefings pages. Feedback from visitors includes:

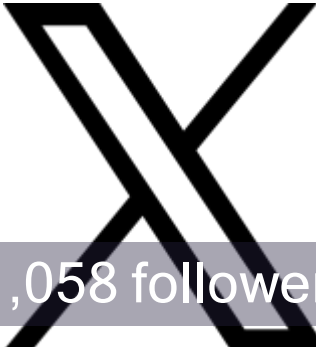
- *Its really easy to use, very clear and content is good.*
- *Easy to manoeuvre around the website*
- *Breadth of training resources available and are easily accessible*
- *the clarity, layout and range of information available far exceeded what was expected*

Our social media presence

The CPSPB uses Twitter, Facebook and Instagram for all sorts of communications from the latest safeguarding news to events that the Safeguarding Partnership Board are hosting.



580 followers



1,058 followers



140 followers

If you haven't yet followed us, please do!



@cplscb



@cplscb



@cpsafeguardingboard

APPENDIX 1 - LIST OF AGENCIES REPRESENTED ON THE SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARTNERSHIP BOARD

- Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Local Authorities including
 - Children Social Care
 - Public Health
 - Elected Members
 - YOS
- Clinical Commissioning Group
- Cambridgeshire Constabulary
- Education
 - Primary School
 - Secondary School
 - Further Education
- East of England Ambulance Service
- Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Foundation Trust
- Cambridgeshire Community Services
- Royal Papworth Hospital
- North West Anglia Hospitals
- Cambridge University Hospital
- Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
- Ely Diocese
- Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue
- Cambridge District Council – representing District Councils
- Cross Keys Homes – representing Housing
- National Probation Service
- CAFCASS
- Healthwatch (Voluntary Sector)
- Department for Work and Pensions

APPENDIX 2 - GLOSSARY

Term	Definition
CAFCASS	Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service
CAMHS	Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service
CCE	Child Criminal Exploitation
CCS	Cambridgeshire Community Services NHS Trust
CDOP	Child Death Overview Panel
CE	Child Exploitation
CICC	Children in Care Council
CP	Child Protection
CPFT	Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust
CPP	Child Protection Plan
CSA	Child Sexual Abuse
CSC	Children Social Care

Term	Definition
CSE	Child Sexual Exploitation
CSP	Community Safety Partnership
CSPR	Child Safeguarding Practice Review -
CUH	Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
DA	Domestic Abuse
DASH	Domestic Abuse, Stalking and Harassment and Honour-Based Violence
DASV	Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence
DoLS	Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards
EDI	Equality, Diversity and Inclusion
ePEP	electronic Personal Education Plan
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation
ICB	Integrated Care Board
ICS	Integrated Care System
IFD	Integrated Front Door
JTAI	Joint Targeted Area Inspection
L & D	Learning and Development
LA	Local Authority
MAPPA	Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements
MASH	Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub
MCA	Mental Capacity Act
MET Hub	Missing, Exploited and Trafficked Hub
NCMD	National Child Mortality Database
NSPCC	National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children
NWAFT	North West Anglia Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
OPCC	Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
PSW	Principal Social Worker
QA	Quality Assurance
RAPS	Reunification and Placement Stability
S.11	Section 11 of the Children's Act
SARC	Sexual Assault Referral Centre
VAWG	Violence Against Women and Girls
YOS	Youth Offending Service



Contact Details: Tel: 01733 863744
Email: safeguardingboards@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
Date of publication:



SCAN ME

CHILDREN AND EDUCATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM No. 8
15 JANUARY 2024	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:	Chris Baird, Interim Director for Education	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Councillor Ray Bisby, Cabinet Member for Children’s Services	
Contact Officer(s): Chris Baird Angela Wellings	Chris Baird, Interim Director of Education Angela Wellings, Interim Head of SEND and Inclusion	Tel. 07920 160050 07453951749

AN OVERVIEW OF SPECIAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES: PROGRESS, PRIORITIES AND CHALLENGES

RECOMMENDATIONS	
FROM: Interim Service Director for Education	Deadline date: N/A
It is recommended that the Children and Education Scrutiny Committee notes the report, makes comments and seeks clarification where appropriate.	

1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

1.1 Scrutiny Committee members requested an update on Special Educational Needs (SEND)

2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

2.1 This report:

- Provides members with an overview of the current performance in SEND
- Highlights the challenges associated with the use of out of city provision
- Outlines progress and achievement against the Written Statement of Action (WSoA) and the Accelerated Progress Plan (APP)
- Alerts members to the Ofsted framework for joint area SEND inspections and the implications for the local area SEND partnership

2.2 This report is for the Children and Education Scrutiny Committee to consider under its Terms of Reference Part 3, Section 4 - Overview and Scrutiny Functions, paragraph No. 2.1 Functions determined by Council:

- 1. Children’s Services including*
- a) Social Care of Children;*
 - b) Safeguarding;*
 - c) Children’s Health*

2.3 This links to the Children in Care Promise number 8, as it demonstrates how we work to ensure that all children in care with SEND are supported with the right resources to ensure that they achieve their full education potential.

3. TIMESCALES

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	NO	If yes, date for Cabinet meeting	N/A
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4. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

4.1 **Our strategy for SEND in Peterborough**

Peterborough has a clear vision and strategy (2019–2024) for children and young people (0-25 years) with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), which has been developed with partners, including children and their families as well as professionals. This strategy was developed when Peterborough was in a shared arrangement with Cambridgeshire and outlines three priority areas:

- SEND is everybody's business, where the vision for SEND is embedded in the practice of everyone who works with children and families
- Identify and respond to needs early, through joined-up early intervention
- Deliver in the right place at the right time, improving outcomes for children and young people, by making the best use of resources and ensuring high quality local support and provision

This strategy runs to 2025 and plans are now in place to review, revise, refresh and co-produce with families and partners, a new SEND strategy for Peterborough.

4.2 **Information and Co-Production in Peterborough**

This is a strength in Peterborough and is particularly supported by the close relationship with Family Voice, Peterborough (FVP) the local parent/carer forum. The SEND Information Hub (Local Offer) has been considerably strengthened and provides a useful range of information for children and young people, parents and carers, early years settings, schools and colleges, provider organisations and professionals. Co-production was noted as a strength in the recent Accelerated Progress Plan

4.3 Officers attend listening events with FVP on a regular basis and offer training sessions for families on the statutory processes. Parents can either join the rolling training sessions or separate ones just for parent/carers can be arranged. Staff are attending a myth busting session on 8th January with parent/carers at the request of FVP after they alerted us to some families being 'told' that a child needs an open Early Help Assessment (EHA) to apply for an Education Health Care Needs Assessment (EHCNA).

4.4 At a strategic level, representatives from FVP attend and make major contributions to a number of key groups, including the fortnightly SEND decision-making Panel, the Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) Improvement group and preparation for inspection planning groups, ensuring they are involved as equal partners.

Performance in SEND: Timeliness of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs)

4.5 There are currently 2,545 children and young people with an Education, Health and Care Plans in Peterborough. EHCPs are issued after a rigorous multi-professional assessment and the government's clear direction is that EHCPs are for children and young people with the highest levels of need. There is a requirement in the Children and Families Act 2014, that EHCPs should be finalised within 20 weeks. As outlined in the table below, Peterborough has the highest performance across the eastern region and is significantly higher than the national average.

Regional Data from SEN 2



		2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Timeliness - Rate of EHC plans excluding exceptions issued within 20 weeks	East of England	47.5%	50.8%	60.8%	60.9%	65.0%	58.8%	65.0%	35.2%
	England	59.2%	58.6%	64.9%	60.1%	60.4%	58.0%	59.9%	50.7%
	Bedford	100.0%	100.0%	93.8%	95.5%	100.0%	100.0%	93.0%	77.5%
	Cambridgeshire	81.6%	87.5%	68.7%	61.9%	79.1%	77.6%	68.5%	41.2%
	Central								
	Bedfordshire	9.1%	42.0%	65.2%	74.6%	88.8%	61.9%	12.7%	12.0%
	Essex	10.1%	37.9%	73.6%	77.8%	74.2%	33.6%	45.9%	10.8%
	Hertfordshire	98.0%	96.0%	95.5%	96.1%	87.9%	78.7%	78.0%	32.6%
	Luton	63.9%	80.2%	87.2%	62.3%	67.2%	68.7%	65.0%	27.5%
	Norfolk	10.5%	5.6%	7.3%	14.1%	7.3%	20.5%	53.5%	75.4%
	Peterborough	62.1%	35.2%	64.5%	73.8%	65.4%	52.1%	92.9%	90.7%
	Southend-on-Sea	12.8%	11.3%	40.5%	96.1%	98.5%	93.5%	96.2%	72.5%
	Suffolk	18.2%	28.5%	47.2%	25.1%	34.6%	81.1%	89.2%	22.8%
	East of England	Thurrock	20.7%	38.0%	13.9%	52.4%	75.8%	86.1%	78.9%

4.6 This performance, which is impressive, should also be considered against a significant rise in the requests for Education, Health and Care Needs Assessments (EHCNAs), both nationally and locally. Over the past year, for example, requests for EHCNAs in Peterborough have risen by 20%, against a national average of 23%. Not all requests are transformed into EHCPs, although this figure currently stands at around 57%. In light of these increases in requests, there is an impact on capacity, which both nationally and locally is stretched. There is a proposal to increase capacity as part of budget proposals being considered for 2024/25.

4.7 Annual Reviews

EHCPs should be reviewed annually, and progress has been made over the last few years, where a recovery plan was put in place to reduce a significant backlog. Between 2017- 2018, the backlog of Annual Reviews stood at 800-1,000. The recovery plan is being successfully implemented and the current backlog is now 240 (4.5% of the total number of EHCPs). Delays in updating EHCPs as a result of the annual review process are a national issue. This is also the case in Peterborough, due in part to very challenging statutory timescales. Work is being done to improve recording and monitoring systems and this is ongoing. Training continues to be delivered to partner agencies regarding their statutory role in the annual review process, reaffirming the statutory timescales involved.

4.8 Once annual review paperwork is received from schools and/or settings, checks are made as to whether amendments are needed or not, and parents are kept informed and involved in the process. There are three outcomes which may result from an annual review of an EHCP. These are: amendments can be made and the plan is updated, no amendments are needed, or recommendations may be made to cease the plan, where the young person has met their learning outcomes and/or is moving on to the next stage of either learning, training or work.

Specialist services to support young people with additional needs

4.9 Peterborough has a number of effective services which work collaboratively with schools and settings to provide a range of helpful strategies and in some cases, direct pupil support to improve the outcomes of children and young people with SEND. These services comprise the following:

- Educational Psychology- trading with 57 schools to provide a range of support, including consultations, assessments, coaching and staff training
- Specialist Teaching- autism and ADHD advisory service, delivering nationally accredited autism training, drop-in sessions, on-line sessions for families
- Sensory and Physical Support – training for over 800 staff and ensuring contact with new families within 2-5 days

- Early Years and Portage- home visits, community groups, guidance for parents

All services, including the Statementing and Monitoring Service (SAMS) work very hard to try to keep up with demand and provide a high-quality service. This does mean that all services are very stretched.

4.10 Use of Out of City Provision

The rise in the number of EHCPs, with a corresponding rise in the number of children and young people with more complex needs can result in a difficulty around finding suitable education placements. When local schools are full, there is an increase in the use of out of city placements. This is not an ideal solution as there can be a detrimental impact on the family and the young person when they have to travel, in some cases, far from home. This removes young people from their local community and the cost of transport is increasingly high. In some cases, however, due to the complex needs of the young person, no suitable provision can be found within the city.

The total number of children and young people currently educated outside Peterborough stands at 117. The table below outlines the type of provision and the numbers of young people in each setting at a total annual cost of £3.95 million.

Out of Area Provision Type	No of Pupils	Annual Placement Costs (£)
Mainstream	7	62,467.00
Post 16	6	111,083.81
Maintained special academy	23	365,559
Independent special day	49	2,926,993.48
Independent special residential	7	519,653.46
Independent mainstream	25	478,814.00
Total	117	3,944,857.29

- 4.11 In addition to the costs of individual placements, as outlined above, there are also transport costs to consider. Of the 117 pupils mentioned in the above table, 94 are in receipt of transport. The total annual cost is £1,095,143.43, with the average cost per pupil standing at £11,775.76. This means that for 2023/24 the budget for placements is £7,214,698 and is currently projected to spend to £8,227,648. The transport budget for SEND is £4,021,587 and is projected to spend £4,965,304. Work is being undertaken to see what opportunities there might be to provide transport effectively, at reduced cost. However, there is a significant relationship with the availability of local provision. A lack of local places does impact on transport costs.

4.12 Accelerated Progress Plan Update

Peterborough local area was required to put in place an Accelerated Progress Plan following Ofsted/CQC joint area SEND revisit in 2022 to determine progress from the 2019 Area SEND inspection which set out five areas of significant weakness. Four of the five areas were judged to have made sufficient progress to address the weaknesses identified. The fifth area “The provision for young people aged 18 to 25 is not sufficiently developed to make sure that young adults have the full range of opportunities and support that they need as they move through into adulthood” was judged not have made the necessary progress and subsequently an APP was put in place. This is subject to monitoring visits from the DfE and NHS England and the second visit was carried out virtually in September 2023.

- 4.13 DfE and NHS England advisors considered a range of evidence and heard from colleagues from a range of different services and organisations including Family Voice. A feedback letter was then sent to PCC and the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough ICB. It was pleasing to note the significant progress that has been made in addressing the issues identified, including the strong evidence of engagement of children and young people, families, co-production, improvement in the Local Offer – the SEND Information Hub, the breadth of education and learning opportunities, the quality of provision, the improvement in understanding of professionals. There will be a further visit in March

2024 to look at the impact of the changes that have taken place, including the transition care within health services.

SEND Leadership in Peterborough

- 4.14 As part of the decoupling from Cambridgeshire City Council, Peterborough has established a SEND Executive Board, chaired by an independent chair, Al Kingsley, CEO of NetSupport, who brings a wealth of experience and previously chaired the Cambridgeshire – Peterborough SEND Executive Board. The Board is made up of senior leaders from Family Voice, the Council (the Executive Director for Children’s Services and team), the Integrated Care Board, health provider trust, schools. The Board reports into the Children and Maternity Collaborative and is in its infancy, having met twice since September 2023.

Ofsted framework for joint area SEND Inspections

- 4.15 The new joint local area inspection, carried out by Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) focuses on the lived experiences of children with SEND and their families. There is a keen focus on partnership and co-production between all professionals, children, young people and their families to ensure that all services for those with SEND are targeted carefully to the needs of those in local area and that outcomes are improved.

A summary of what they will look for:

- 4.16 **The impact of the local area partnership’s SEND arrangements on the experiences and outcomes of children and young people with SEND**

Inspectors will be looking at how well the local area identifies need, meets need, and prepares children and young people for next steps. They will also consider what evidence there is that children and young people with SEND and their families are involved at an individual level.

How local area partners work together to plan, evaluate and develop SEND services

- 4.17 This is around processes and how services needs are identified, commissioned, evaluated against impact and best outcomes. They will focus on leaders’ ambitions (at all levels), strategic working across services, commissioning, and how well leaders understand, provide for and engage with children, young people and their families to ensure. Of note is the new focus on alternative provision, attendance and links with youth justice.

Preparation in Peterborough

- 4.18 The inspection schedule is clearly laid out and means that significant planning and preparation can and is occurring beforehand. Inspectors will request key information (Annex A) which states exactly what level of detail they require. There is a schedule of which partner will collate each required dataset for the inspection and this has been shared.

The current Peterborough SEF requires updating and this is underway. The LA is also preparing readiness for Annex A which had not been put in place at the time of the decoupling.

Partners are updating the self-evaluation (SEF), and the next steps are:

- Co-produce the SEF across services and leaders. This will include those individuals and organisations who support families with SEND directly, such as Family Voice
- Deliver summary briefings for those likely to meet with inspectors so that key themes, findings and next steps are known by all
- Consider next steps for further improvement around co-production and mapping of future needs

- 4.19 Feedback from colleagues in other local areas who have already been through the Local Area SEND Inspection process indicates that inspectors are primarily focused on the lived experience of children, young people and their families. Inspectors appreciated an honest appraisal of SEND services. What is key however, is that there are clear plans for any improvements that are needed, particularly over the next 12 months.

5. CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- 5.1
1. *The Economy & Inclusive Growth*
 - *Homes and Workplaces*: Overall, the impact of this report will be neutral. The report is to give the committee and overview of key areas of SEND and Inclusion in Peterborough.
 2. *Prevention, Independence & Resilience*
 - Relates to the priority of children as it relates to the SEND services provided for children.

Further information on the Council's Priorities can be found here - [Link to Corporate Strategy and Priorities Webpage](#)

6. CONSULTATION

- 6.1 N/A

7. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT

- 7.1 Scrutiny committee is updated on the performance of SEND services.

8. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION

- 8.1 Scrutiny committee is asked to note the achievements of the SEND service.

9. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 9.1 There are no alternative options to consider as this is a report for information.

10. IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

- 10.1 There are no financial implications from this report.

Legal Implications

- 10.2 The legal framework around SEND is covered by the Equality Act 2010, the Children and Families Act 2014 and the SEND Code of Practice 2015.

Equalities Implications

- 10.3 There are no equality implications arising from this report

Children in Care and Care Leavers

- 10.4 This report relates to all children, including children in care and care leavers.

11. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

- 11.1 N/A

12. APPENDICES

- 12.1 N/A

CHILDREN AND EDUCATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM No. 9
15 JANUARY 2024	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:	Adesuwa Omoregie, Interim Director for Legal and Governance (Monitoring Officer)		
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Councillor Coles, Cabinet Member for Legal, Finance and Corporate Services		
Contact Officer(s):	Madia Afzal, Democratic Services Officer	Tel. 01733 452509	

CHILDREN AND EDUCATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING START TIME 2024-2025

RECOMMENDATIONS	
FROM: Adesuwa Omoregie, Interim Director for Legal and Governance (Monitoring Officer)	Deadline date: N/A
It is recommended that the Children and Education Scrutiny Committee agree the start time for all Children and Education Scrutiny Committee meetings for the Municipal Year 2024-25.	

1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

1.1 This report is submitted to the Children and Education Scrutiny Committee meeting following the Full Council decision on 24 July 2019 to allow Committees to decide their own start times for each new Municipal Year.

2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

2.1 The purpose of this report is to allow the Children and Education Scrutiny Committee to discuss and agree the start times for meetings from the beginning of the Municipal Year 2024-25. The draft schedule of meetings will be agreed at the meeting of Full Council on 24 January 2024

2.2 This report is for the Children and Education Scrutiny Committee to consider under Council Standing Order section 4.4.1

The timings of normal committee meetings will be agreed by the committee for the next municipal year in January of the preceding municipal year (or as near to this time as possible).

3. TIMESCALES

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	NO	If yes, date for Cabinet meeting	N/A
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4. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

4.1 At the Constitution and Ethics Committee on 8 July 2019 the Committee agreed by majority to recommend to Council that all Committees can agree their start times for each Municipal Year. This was again agreed by majority at the Full Council meeting on 24 July 2019.

- 4.2 The Council standing orders have been updated to reflect this decision and gives Committees the opportunity to decide their own start time.
- 4.3 In order for the start times to be incorporated into the draft meeting schedule it is important for the Committee to make a decision on this before the relevant Full Council meeting.
- 4.4 Council standing orders allow the Committee to agree its start time every Municipal Year, thereby allowing the Committee to change the start times if it is felt that the start time was not suitable.
- 4.5 The Committee will need to decide the best start time and will need to weigh up attendance at meetings and the impact on the Council and members of the public.
- 4.6 The Committee start time in recent years has been 7pm.

5. CONSULTATION

- 5.1 Consultation has already taken place with the Constitution and Ethics Committee and all Councillors at Full Council in July 2019.

6. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT

- 6.1 It is anticipated that the Committee will agree a start time for meetings for the Municipal Year 2024-25 and this will be proposed as part of the draft meeting schedule.

7. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION

- 7.1 The recommendation allows the Children and Education Scrutiny Committee to debate the start time of the meeting and make recommendations following debate.

8. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 8.1 N/A

9. IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

- 9.1 There are no financial implications.

Legal Implications

- 9.2 There are no legal implications.

Equalities Implications

- 9.3 There are no equalities implications.

10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

- 10.1 Minutes of the Constitution and Ethics Committee 8 July 2019
Report to Full Council 24 July 2019

11. APPENDICES

- 11.1 N/A

Children and Education Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2023/24

Updated: 15/12/2023

Meeting Date	Item	Comments
<p>Meeting date: 20 July 2023</p> <p>Draft report deadline: 29 June 2023 Final report deadline: 7 July 2023</p>	<p>Appointment of Co-opted Members 2023/24 Contact Officer: Charlotte Cameron</p>	
	<p>Introductory report to work of Children's and Education Services and presentation Contact Officer: Chris Baird and Gary Jones</p>	
	<p>Integrated Front Door Contact Officer: Gary Jones</p>	
	<p>Review of 2022/2023 and Draft Work Programme for 2023/24 Contact Officer: Charlotte Cameron</p>	
	<p>Forward Plan of Executive Decisions Contact Officer: Charlotte Cameron</p>	

Meeting date: 25 September 2023 Draft report deadline: 4 September 2023 Final report deadline: 12 September 2023	Supplementary Appointment of Co-opted Members 2023/24 Contact Officer: Charlotte Cameron	
	Forward Plan of Executive Decisions Contact Officer: Charlotte Cameron	
	Clare Lodge Update Contact Officer: Alison Bennett	
	Performance and Outcomes of Early Help Support Report Contact Officer: Gary Jones/Jodie LeFevre	
	Executive Director Children Services and Young People's Service & Portfolio Holder Report: Integrated Front Door Contact Officer: Lydia Bennett	
	Work Programme 2023/2024 Contact Officer: Charlotte Cameron	

Meeting date: 6 November 2023 Draft report deadline: 16 October 2023 Final report deadline: 24 October 2023	Forward Plan of Executive Decisions Contact Officer: Madia Afzal	
	Annual Children’s Social Care Complaint Report Contact Officer: Belinda Evans	
	Children Services Improvement Board Arrangements Contact Officers: John Gregg/Gary Jones	
	Work Programme 2023/2024 Contact Officer: Madia Afzal	

Meeting date: 15 January 2024 Draft report deadline: 22 December 2023 Final report deadline: 2 January 2024	Forward Plan of Executive Decisions Contact Officer: Madia Afzal	
	Annual report of Peterborough Virtual School for Children in Care Contact Officer: Zoe Lattimer	
	Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report Contact Officer: Jon Chapman, Jo Procter on AL	
	SEND Report Contact Officers: Chris Baird/Angela Wellings	At the previous Group Reps meeting, it was noted that Officers were waiting on the DfE/NHS England letter regarding the Accelerated Progress Plan. (ICB and PCC) Chris chased on 30.11.23 - update to be included as part of the Committee report.
	Committee Start Time Report 2024/2025 Contact Officer: Madia Afzal	
	Monitoring Scrutiny Recommendations Report Contact Officer: Madia Afzal	
	Work Programme 2023/2024 Contact Officer: Madia Afzal	

Meeting date: 22 January 2024 Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees – Budget		
Meeting date: 11 March 2024 Draft report deadline: 19 February 2024 Final report deadline: 27 February 2024	Forward Plan of Executive Decisions Contact Officer: Madia Afzal	
	Cabinet Member Portfolio Update, Cllr Ray Bisby – Children's Services	
	Corporate Parenting Annual Report	
	Family Safeguarding Model Report Contact Officer: Gary Jones	Sue Williams – Review of model, recommendations for improvement of model
	Monitoring Scrutiny Recommendations Report Contact Officer: Madia Afzal	

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