



South Lanarkshire  
**Partnership**  
Stronger together

**Safe Healthy Achieving Nurtured Active**



getting  
**it right**  
*for every child*  
in South Lanarkshire



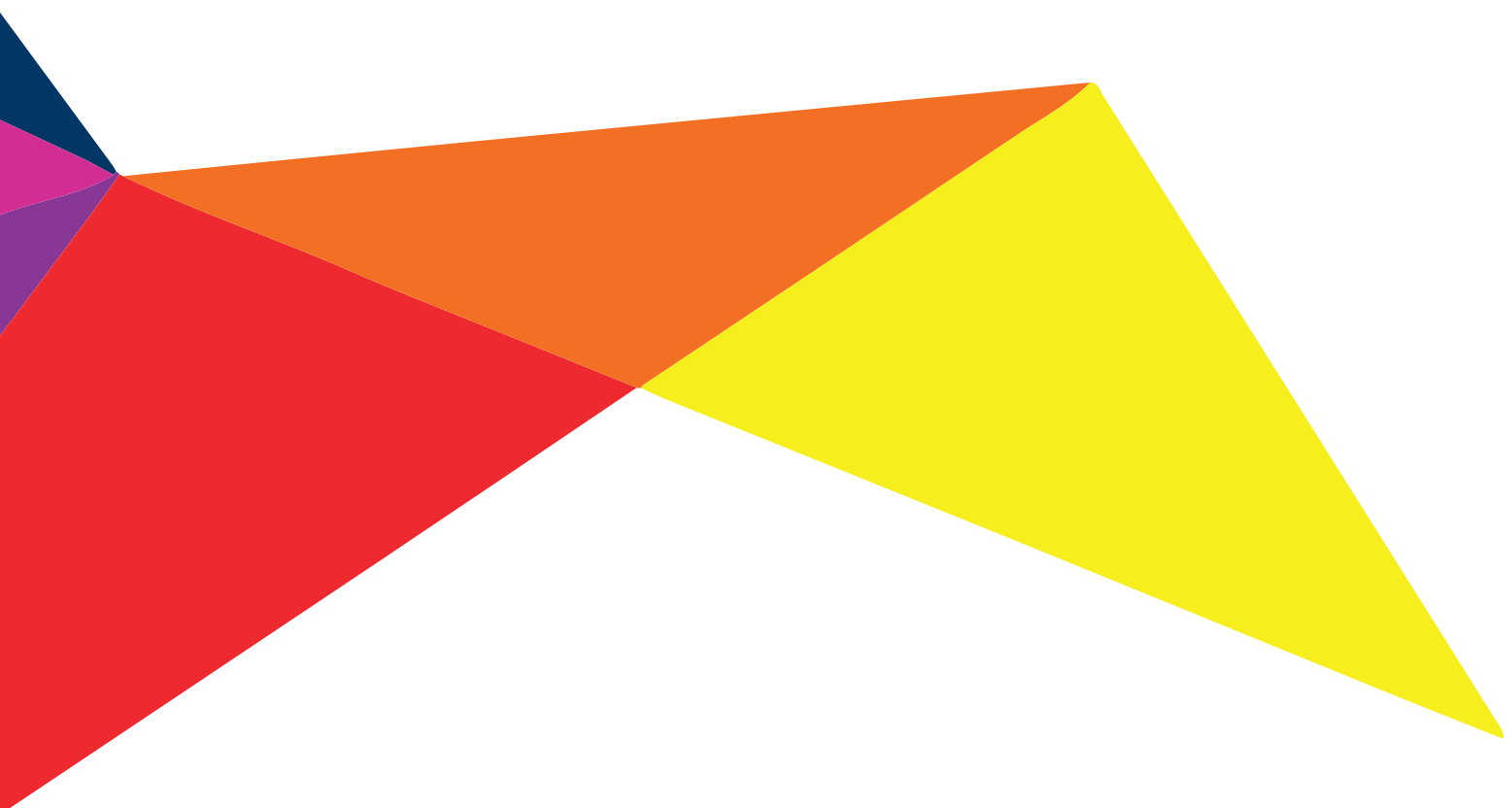
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## Part two

**Action plan 2018-2019**



## 1. Foreword

**Welcome to the first annual report for our children's services plan 2017-2020 – Working Together: Making a Difference. I am pleased to present the report which highlights our key achievements in relation to children, young people and families in South Lanarkshire and our next steps.**



I would like to thank all the partners who have made such a valuable contribution to our shared goals and worked so hard to deliver the best possible outcomes for South Lanarkshire's children, young people and families.

The last year has been our first year under the duties of the Children and Young People's (Scotland) Act 2014 and we welcome the additional scrutiny provided by reporting to the Scottish Government.

Throughout the last 12 months we have maintained our focus on the three high level priorities of:

- Prevention and early support
- Health and wellbeing
- Supporting vulnerable groups and keeping children safe

In working towards these priorities we have maximised the strength of our partnership and ensured our continued commitment to working together to get it right for every child, young person and family in South Lanarkshire. These have been the key drivers for our work and are the organisers for our annual report.

We have a new vision that sets the focus for our plan and complements our high level outcomes:

*Children, young people and their families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities.*

Over the last year we have worked with the Community Planning Partnership to align our children's services plan with South Lanarkshire's community plan and in particular the shared objective of tackling deprivation, poverty and inequality and especially the challenge of reducing child poverty.

Our Realigning Children's Services (RCS) activity has provided a valuable insight into the needs and thoughts of our children and young people and we have used this evidence to inform the content of our plan and of the improvement work of the partnership and individual agencies within it.

The work of the Children's Services Partnership is informed by the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 and through the RCS programme and other similar activity e.g. engagement work with care experienced young people, and participation work embedded in all our activity we embrace the key messages of the action to ensure that the voices of our children, young people and families are heard as part of our shared planning processes.

Through striving for Continuous Improvement I am confident that effective governance structures are in place that facilitate our commitment to self-evaluation and improvement and enable multi-agency reflection on practice, delivery of services and best value.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Liam Purdie".

Liam Purdie

**Head of Children and Justice Services**





## 2. Our targets and priorities

The table below illustrates how the various areas of activity sit within our plan and are organised under our high level outcomes. Our plan is set out with the intention of safeguarding, supporting and ensuring the wellbeing of children in South Lanarkshire, ensuring we provide the right support at the earliest possible time and making the best use of available resources. Additionally the plan reflects the cross cutting themes of tackling poverty and inequalities.

<b>Children have the best start in life and are supported to realise their potential.</b>	<b>The health and wellbeing of children, young people and families is improved.</b>	<b>The life chances of our most vulnerable children and young people are improved.</b>
Children's exposure to second hand smoke in pregnancy and early childhood is reduced	Emotional and behavioural concerns in early years is reduced	Employability of care experienced young people is improved
The number of children living in low income households is reduced	More children and young people are a healthy weight	Attainment for care experienced children and young people is improved
Speech, language and communication in early years is improved	Health and wellbeing of care experienced children and young people is improved	Attendance at school for care experienced children and young people is improved
School attendance of children and young people in the most deprived communities is improved	Emotional wellbeing of children and young people is improved	The rate of repeat referrals to the Scottish Children's Reporter Administration (SCRA) is reduced
Attainment of children and young people in the most deprived communities is improved	Substance misuse by young people is reduced	Support to children and families affected by homelessness is improved
Employability of young people within the most deprived communities is improved	Teenage pregnancies in under 16 year olds is reduced	Support to children and families affected by domestic abuse is improved
		Support to children and young people affected by parental substance misuse is improved
		Support to young carers is improved
		Support to children and young people with additional support needs is improved

# 3. Our plan and its progress

## Annual Report

Our annual report sets out details of how children’s services partners have worked to improve outcomes for children, young people and their families in South Lanarkshire. It also provides a picture of the information we have gathered as we monitor and report on the progress of our main outcomes. The data illustrated in section 6 shows how we are collectively analysing the important trends that help us understand progress towards our desired outcomes and also the difference we are making for our children, young people and families.

We have embraced the additional scrutiny and duty that comes with the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 and we welcome the revised focus for future children’s services inspections. We are working with the lead officers for Child Protection and Corporate Parenting to ensure that the Child Protection and Corporate Parenting agendas are explicit within our Children’s Services Plan activity.

The activities of the Children’s Services Plan have been embedded in the work of strategic sub groups and there is regular monitoring of progress by partners who are closest to the work. Lead officers have been identified to ensure that the agreed actions take place as intended and that the necessary evidence to support reporting is collected and made available.

In recording of our progress we have made use of existing systems to provide formal reports for partners to help us reflect on what we have achieved and what we still need to do.







The following section details the work undertaken in relation to each of our priority themes.

## Prevention and early support

Vision	Children, young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities.
Outcome 1	Children have the best start in life and are supported to realise their potential
Prevention and early support	<p>We supported parents with young children to reduce the exposure of children to second hand smoke in East Kilbride through the support of Health Visitors. Two hundred and fifty six Brief Interventions were delivered at the six week Child Health Review.</p> <p>We worked with the Housing Benefits Team to ensure that as many pupils as possible claimed free school meal entitlement.</p> <p>Health Visitors developed a routine enquiry approach to supporting clients with financial inclusion issues and targeted work in the Blantyre area led to improvements in income of over £100,000 for local families. Health Improvement staff have been promoting a new Money Worries app to service users and associated professionals. Staff in Early Years and Health have promoted the Healthy Start scheme, encouraging new parents to access vitamin vouchers.</p> <p>Early Years partners are encouraging parents to take up the available child care places for two year olds through targeted publicity such as the 'Starting Nursery' booklet and in developing the role of parent ambassadors.</p> <p>We have implemented our Parenting Support Pathway through training for staff, effective targeting of provision and improved publicity materials. The You &amp; Your Child parenting programme has helped 119 parents improve confidence and establish stronger relationships with support agencies.</p> <p>We have worked to reduce the gap in school attendance between pupils in our most deprived communities and pupils in our most affluent communities through better use of available attendance data and targeted support to families when necessary.</p> <p>We have worked with our schools through the Children and Young People's Improvement Collaborative to promote 'active literacy' methods and 78 staff have been trained to deliver 'Catch Up Literacy', a programme that supports pupils with literacy difficulties. South Lanarkshire staff are the first accredited 'Catch Up' Trainers in Scotland. Well planned transition support programmes help our most vulnerable pupils at important times on their school journey.</p> <p>Through the delivery of Education's Aspire employability programme, we have supported 580 young people in the last 12 months who have been identified as requiring additional support to achieve and sustain a positive post school destination. Young people at risk of not achieving a positive destination received individualised one to one support with a dedicated key worker who works at the pace of the young person to dismantle any barriers they may have to entering the world of work. The main component of the programme is 12/18 months aftercare to help the young person sustain their positive destination or help them make any changes required. The impact of the Aspire project has helped us achieve the best school leaver destination results in the last 10 years 95.8% for South Lanarkshire compared to the national average of 93.7%.</p>

## Health and wellbeing

<b>Vision</b>	<b>Children, young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities.</b>
Outcome 2	The health and wellbeing of children, young people and families is improved
Health and wellbeing	<p>We have worked with parents to improve attachment through the Solihull approach, the delivery of the Mellow Parenting programme and in the use of the Early Years Framework for Assessment and Intervention for Attachment and Resilience (FAIAR). An increasing number of parents are building their skills to manage children's behaviour, by participating in the Incredible Years programme, with 43 parents engaged in the first phase of the new delivery model.</p> <p>Large numbers of our staff have benefited from attachment training and a new forthcoming attachment strategy will set out clear recommendations for delivery of future training opportunities.</p> <p>We have been building on the support offered to young mums to encourage breastfeeding and are now striving to implement additional improvements in the services on offer to pregnant women/new mothers.</p> <p>South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture are delivering a range of opportunities from early years to the senior phase of secondary school, which is designed to improve participation in sport and physical activity and reduce obesity. Pupils' participation in the Active Schools programme is increasing year on year.</p> <p>Our Health and Social Work staff are working together to improve early support to our children and young people who are newly looked after and ensure that their needs are identified and met.</p>
Health and wellbeing	<p>Most of our secondary school establishments offer dedicated support to vulnerable pupils who are struggling with adverse social and emotional experiences through the delivery of nurture programmes in schools and targeted transition activities. This helps ensure that pupils feel included in the school community and equipped to make the most of the learning experiences open to them.</p> <p>We are working across all partners to improve supports offered to our children and young people who are experiencing mental health problems. A new pathway has been published which will help staff and agencies identify the best support available. Realigning Children's Services data and other evidence is being used to explore new approaches to offering early support for young people experiencing emotional difficulties.</p> <p>Through our Substance Misuse group, agencies have been working together to improve access to support for children and young people affected by substance misuse, either directly or indirectly. Support is focused on Alcohol Brief Interventions and one to one support. New commissioning arrangements are now in place to deliver key services to young people and to provide essential training for staff.</p> <p>A Teenage Pregnancy Pathway has been included in the recently launched Education Resources – 'Framework for Inclusion and Equality' which enables Education staff to ensure inclusive practice and an equality of opportunity for all learners to reach their potential.</p>



## Supporting vulnerable groups and keeping children safe

<b>Vision</b>	<b>Children, young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities.</b>
<b>Outcome 3</b>	The life chances of our children with additional support needs and our most vulnerable young people are improved
<b>Supporting vulnerable groups and keeping children safe</b>	<p>Our multi agency tracking group meets regularly to support care experienced young people achieve and sustain a positive post school destination on leaving school through individualised employability support. Our school leaver destination figures are the best they have ever been, with 89% of our looked after leavers achieving a positive destination, which is above the national average of 81%. We have established robust links with Youth Justice and Health staff to ensure a holistic approach to supporting our young people's post school journey.</p> <p>The Inclusive Education Team provided all educational establishments with copies of The Framework for Inclusion and Equality document. Copies were also distributed to various partners. This Framework provides practical advice for staff to support vulnerable groups and keep children safe and ensures we have a consistent approach to identifying, planning, recording and reviewing individual support plans. Within this Framework we take account of the government guidelines such as Included, Engaged and Involved in order to help staff prevent and manage exclusions and improve attendance for all children and young people. Designated Senior Managers in schools have a particular focus on improving attendance and outcomes and reducing exclusions for our care experienced children and young people. Our exclusion rate is very low across the whole school population and this is reflected in the exclusion rate for looked after children (0.04%). Our attendance rate for looked after children remains very positive (91%) and is comparable with the national average (92%).</p>







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Supporting vulnerable groups and keeping children safe	<p>Designated managers in our schools are working with the Inclusive Education Service to ensure focused support is given to care experienced pupils in terms of attainment. 22.5% of our looked after pupils have achieved five or more awards at National Five level, an increase of 5.2% on the previous year.</p> <p>Our staff in Education, Social Work and Health work closely together to ensure that all our children who are looked after at home have a care plan in place to support attendance and achievement in school.</p> <p>Our increased focus on early intervention with young people at risk of offending has seen the development of a consent practice model of Early and Effective Intervention (EEI) rolled out across all our localities. New guidance has been written and training has been delivered to staff in each area. 276 young people were supported through EEI in the 12 months to March 2018.</p>





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<b>Outcome 3</b>	<b>The life chances of our children with additional support needs and our most vulnerable young people are improved</b>
<b>Supporting vulnerable groups and keeping children safe</b>	<p>Schools implement a Staged Intervention approach to ensure that gaps in pupils' education are kept to a minimum and with the aim of reducing the number of children referred to the Reporter on school attendance grounds. Attendance rates have remained high over a number of years and this trend has been maintained in the 12 months to June 2017 (93.4%).</p> <p>Our Gender Based Violence Partnership agencies have worked closely together to deliver on the five priorities of the Gender Violence Strategy and to build a confident and competent workforce. Training has been offered to almost 250 staff through a range of opportunities and a series of training events were delivered as part of the '16 days of action' to eliminate violence against women and girls in September 2017. Women's Aid Children and Young People's Service has supported 278 children and young people across South Lanarkshire including through the targeted CEDAR programme.</p> <p>Through our Substance Misuse Group, agencies work together to support children, young people and their parents at risk of substance misuse. Current improvement work is focussing on effective wellbeing assessments for children and parents. A review of the support offered to pregnant substance misusing women is underway and the current locality Early Years Multi Agency Forums will implement a consistent model of practice including bespoke 'Women's Plans'.</p> <p>Education Resources has launched a new practice guide designed to ensure that inclusion and equality is at the heart of everything we do. In doing so we have the highest expectations and aspirations for all our children and young people and especially those that are vulnerable or at risk.</p> <p>A new Framework for the Education of Pupils who have Autism Spectrum Disorder is now in place in all Education establishments and is designed to support better outcomes for children who are autistic and their families.</p>



The activities of the Children's Services Plan have been embedded in the work of strategic sub groups and there is regular monitoring of progress by partners who are closest to the work. Lead officers have been identified to ensure that the agreed actions take place as intended and that the necessary evidence to support reporting is collected and made available.



Examples of the work of partners contributing towards our plan's outcomes include:

## Early support and prevention

### Financial inclusion work with families

Health Visitors developed a routine enquiry approach to supporting clients with financial inclusion issues and targeted work in the Blantyre area led to improvements in income of over £100,000 for local families. Health Improvement staff have been promoting a new Money Worries app to service users and associated professionals. Staff in Early Years and Health have promoted the Healthy Start scheme, encouraging new parents to access vitamin vouchers.

The initiative is based on early understanding of need by Health Visiting staff sensitively identifying families in the most deprived communities who were in need of financial support and the provision of expert money advice by trained Money Matters Advice Service staff. This specially developed Financial Inclusion Pathway was implemented by the Health Visitors between the first visit and the child's six week health review. Referrals were picked up within an agreed time period by Money Advice staff who provided expert advice and support either by telephone, face to face contact, or joint home visits with Health staff.







## Health and wellbeing

### Work with girls and young women

South Lanarkshire Leisure have been working in partnership with our schools to encourage and increase participation by pupils across South Lanarkshire in the Active Schools Programme. One important area of this work has been to specifically engage girls and young women with a view to improving their overall wellbeing.

A number of our secondary schools, including St John Ogilvie, Holy Cross and Trinity High Schools, Hamilton and Uddingston Grammar Schools and Larkhall and Calderside Academies are working closely with South Lanarkshire Leisure to encourage girls and young women to participate more in sport and physical activity. The aim of this programme is to motivate and inspire young women and girls to take part in sport and fitness and to encourage lifelong participation. Sessions involved more than 190 girls and young women and focused not only on the physical benefits of being more active, but also on improved mental health, emotional wellbeing and increased self-esteem.

Pupils were offered a program of taster sessions at the Eastfield Lifesyles Centre and a first ever "South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture Secondary Fitness Live" event was organised at Blantyre Leisure Centre.

Girls were encouraged to try a whole range of activities that they wouldn't normally take part in e.g. studio cycling, yoga, boot camp fitness, bubble football, Spin Fit, Hip Hop Dance, Body Pump, Body Combat and Clubbersize and then relaxation with professional makeup tutorials.

Some pupils benefited from a guest motivational speaker, Paula McGuire, who spoke about mental health and how sport and adventure has had such a positive aspect on her life.

The atmosphere and motivation from the girls throughout the programme was fantastic! All the girls and teachers and staff were fully engaged in the activities offered and some got to try activities for the first time ever!

The programme was supported in part by the Active Schools Sport Coach Academy programme and the South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture Youth Sports Panel including fitness coaches, fifteen Active Schools volunteers, five Sport Coach Academy students and three members of SLLC Sports Youth Panel who all contributed to making the initiative such a great success.



## Supporting vulnerable groups and keeping children safe

### Employability work with young people

Our Youth Employability (ASPIRE) programme sits within Education Resources and ensures young people who are assessed as requiring additional support to achieve and sustain a positive destination when they leave school are identified and supported. We have created a 'one stop shop' of employability programmes with targeted tracking and monitoring processes. Aspire staff work with schools, Skills Development Scotland and when relevant the parents/carers to identify young people before they leave school and after they leave school until their 19th birthday.

ASPIRE helps young people through bespoke individual learning plans that include a focus on wellbeing and employability outcomes. Each young person is supported by an ASPIRE Vocational Development Worker who will work with the young person and provide a personal programme which may include work experience, employability skills, volunteering and/or health and wellbeing interventions. Support is flexible and fits around the young person's circumstances and interests.

Aspire workers work closely with partners who are also supporting the young person e.g. Social Work, Health, Youth Justice and Skills Development Scotland to offer joined up support and to ensure a sustained destination. Quite often young people who are more vulnerable include care experienced, youth offenders and those with mental health difficulties and can find it difficult to sustain employment and college places. With the Aspire programme, support can continue with them through their journey.





Additional support is provided through a Care Experienced Employability Focus Group made up of key partners, who meet every 6 weeks. Partners meet to monitor trends and identify looked after young people's needs and agree what support is offered.

In 2017/18 ASPIRE engaged with around 580 young people and during this time 335 completed their support programme. Of those who completed, 84% moved to a positive destination which was higher than the national average of 79%. Work continues with the remaining young people and their destinations will be recorded in the end of year report next year.

ASPIRE has also helped close the gap with positive destinations for the young people in the most deprived 20% data zones and their peers in the least deprived 20% data zones. The South Lanarkshire gap for 16/17 is 4.8% which is below the national average of 7%

Similar progress has been made with improved outcomes for care experienced young people school leaver's destinations and those of their peers. In 2013 the gap was over 29%, however, latest available figures (2017) show the gap has reduced to just over 8%.

This highlights the inclusiveness of the programme and the success that comes with it.



## 4. Self-evaluation and quality assurance

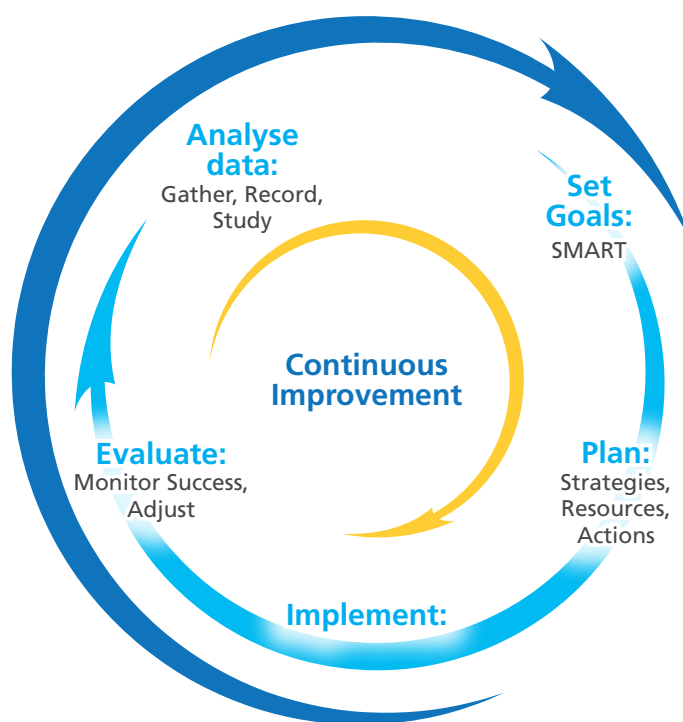
Self-evaluation and quality assurance is central to the children's services partnership. This activity is led by the Continuous Improvement Group, who provide a monitoring function and report to the Children's Services Strategy Group and GIRFEC Board on the progress and impact of service delivery for children, young people and families. Current documents that inform this activity are: '*How well are we improving the lives of children and young people?*' (Care Inspectorate 2014) and '*How well do we protect children and meet their needs?*' (HMIe, 2009)

A key feature of the activity is to identify where quality needs to be maintained, where improvement is needed and where services should be working towards excellence e.g. supporting the auditing of agreed joint processes and using the evidence to promote consistency and best practice within and across agencies.

The Continuous Improvement Group directs, maintains and manages the delivery of multi-agency self-evaluation activity at strategic and locality level including the implementation of a Quality Assurance calendar. It reviews and updates the *Continuous Improvement Framework* and *Programme of single and multi-agency self-evaluation activity* on an annual basis.

Another function of the group is to inform the South Lanarkshire Community Planning Partnership in order to contribute to the setting, monitoring and evaluation of challenging targets for improving outcomes for children, young people and their families.

Reflection on practice, gathering evidence of impact and knowing where we are doing well and where we aren't doing so well is an essential activity. Identifying, promoting and extending good practice is a feature of our shared improvement agenda and is embedded across the partnership structure. It is built into regular calendared events such as our Senior Manager's Seminars and locality Practitioner Events to allow us to involve as many staff as possible in improvement activity.



**South Lanarkshire Continuous Improvement Cycle**



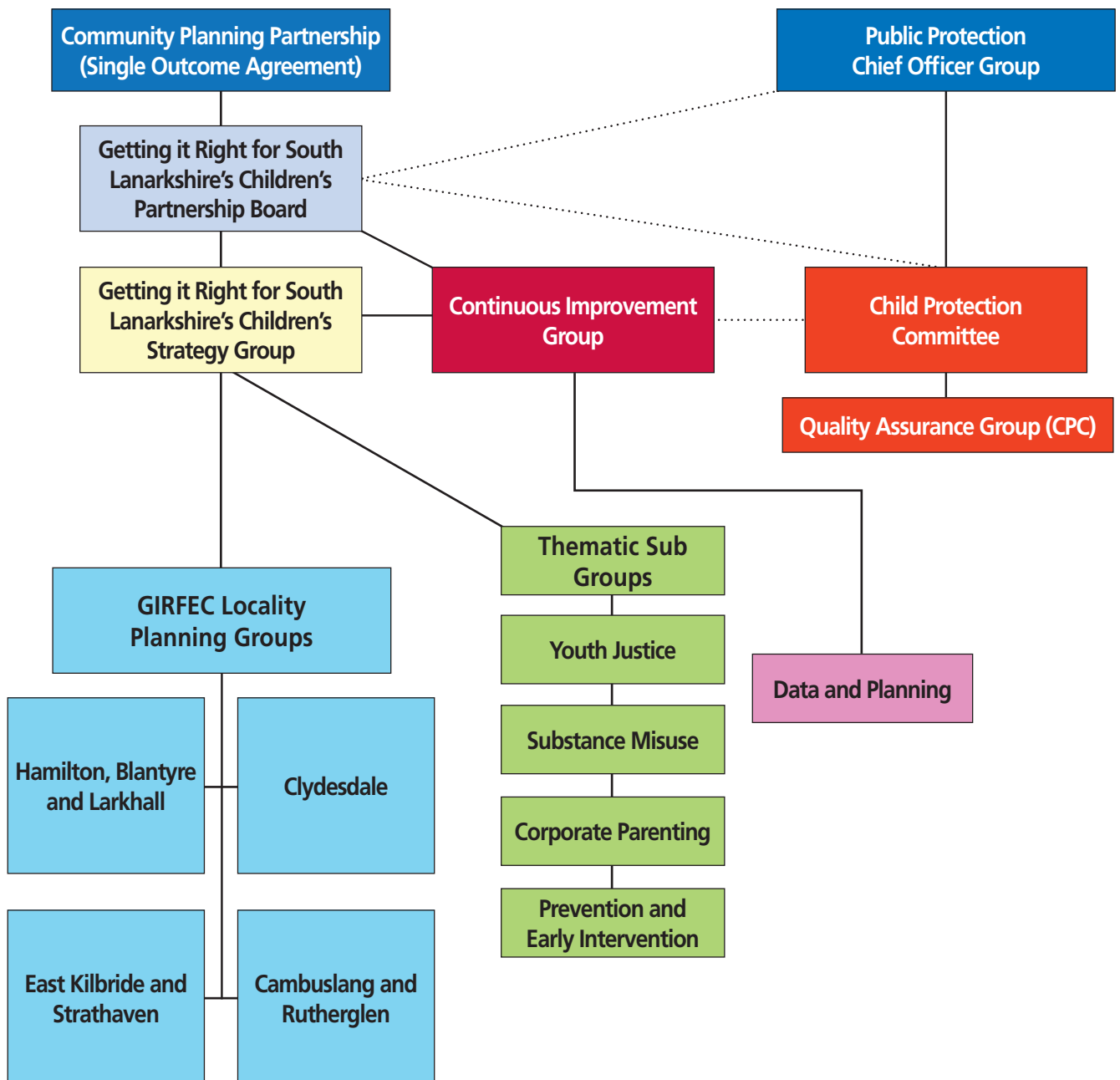
# 5. Work of the partnership

## Governance

The Children's Services Strategy Group and Partnership Board have set a clear vision for our work, they have developed shared values and a set of priorities designed to achieve best outcomes for South Lanarkshire's children, young people and families.

We have recently reviewed our partnership structure as part of our good governance approach and to ensure that our practice of working together is as effective as possible in achieving our desired outcomes. This has resulted in the previous Early Years Task and Finish Group refocusing its activities around the theme of Prevention, Early Support and Addressing Inequalities. It now becomes the fourth strategic sub group alongside Corporate Parenting, Substance Misuse and Youth Justice. The structure also shows clearly the linkage to South Lanarkshire's Community Planning Partnership and Child Protection structures, which underline a robust linkage across all the key partnerships linked to children's services.

The latest governance diagram is below:



## Realigning Children's Services

We have been working in partnership with the Scottish Government as part of the Realigning Children's Services Programme (RCS) since September 2016. In this time we have reflected on our investment into children, young people and families, analysed available data and given almost 17,000 children, young people and parents the opportunity to tell us about their lived experiences. This work has enabled us to identify two change themes where we want to focus our attention regarding improvement work. These themes are: children looked after at home and the mental health of girls and young women.

Other areas of work to drive forward improvements coming from the RCS programme include a focus on nutrition and obesity, early intervention/prevention within our youth justice strategy and understanding the impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences.

## Child Protection Committee

There are close links in place with the public protection structures in South Lanarkshire and in particular the Child Protection Committee and its supporting Quality Assurance and Management Information Sub Group.

The close working relationship is founded on mutual responsibility for shared improvement work with the Chair of the Continuous Improvement Group a member of the Child Protection Committee and the Lead Officer – Child Protection a member of the Continuous Improvement Group. Joint audits of practice have taken place across a number of cross cutting themes including substance misuse, domestic violence and children's plans.

The activity is driven by both the Child Protection Business Plan and the Children's Services Partnership's Joint Self Evaluation and Continuous Improvement Activity Plan. This underlines a shared vision that all children and young people have a right to be cared for and protected from abuse and harm.

## Engagement with children and families

We are committed to enabling the involvement of children, young people and families in the development of activities and services. Article 12 of the UNCRC states that children and young people should have their say when adults are making decisions that affect them and their opinions are taken seriously. The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 ensures that children's rights are realised and that they properly influence the design and delivery of policies and services.

The participation and engagement of our children and young people has been central to the planning process in South Lanarkshire and we were delighted with the scale of contribution made to the RCS wellbeing study. This has been a key influence on the content of our plan, reassuring us that our attention is focused in the right areas.

We have held a series of focus groups for children, young people and parents to reflect on our Children's Services Plan and to work towards producing a meaningful 'children's version' of our plan. In addition we have worked with children, young people and parents to reflect on the children's rights agenda and what this means in South Lanarkshire.

Neighbourhood planning has been a feature of South Lanarkshire's approach to addressing poverty and in particular child poverty. Children's services partners have contributed towards local events and community participation in each of the South Lanarkshire's neighbourhood planning areas.







### *Other examples of engagement:*

- Who Cares? Scotland have supported engagement from care leavers, young people in foster care, kinship care, looked after at home and residential care through group work, consultations, workshops and events.
- Youth, Family and Community Learning Service engage young people in a wide variety of learning and democratic decision-making processes in different contexts including committees for groups such as South Lanarkshire Youth Council Board elections, Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIPs) consultations, South Lanarkshire Disability Access Panel, Young People's Sports Panel, and the election of board members for the Confucius Hub group. 32 groups have engaged through the Youth Participation Network to date.
- NHS Lanarkshire continue to engage with children and young people to find out more about what health and wellbeing issues are important, about how health information is accessed, about their experiences of using health services, and to agree the best ways of involving children and young people in health service planning and improvement.

## **Engagement with staff**

The participation and engagement of staff is a highly valued aspect of our work. The regular Senior Managers Events and Locality Seminars consult with staff and report progress against key targets and are a feature of our commitment to governance and accountability. Over the last 12 months 270 staff at all levels attended at least one of these events.





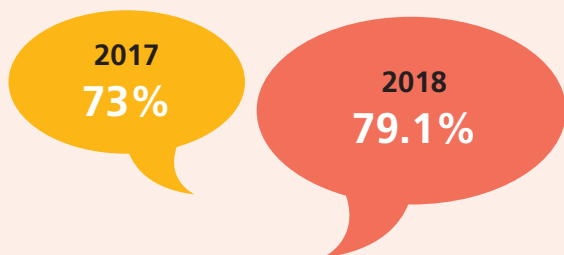
# 6. Data at a glance

A feature of recent partnership work has been to look more closely at available data within our plan. The section below gives a flavour of recent trends:

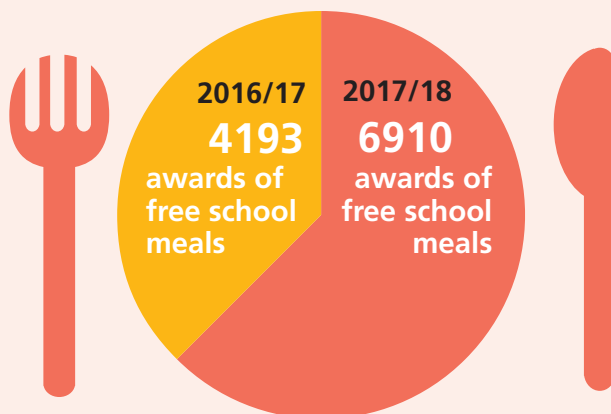
## Prevention and early support

### 27/30 month 'health needs assessment'

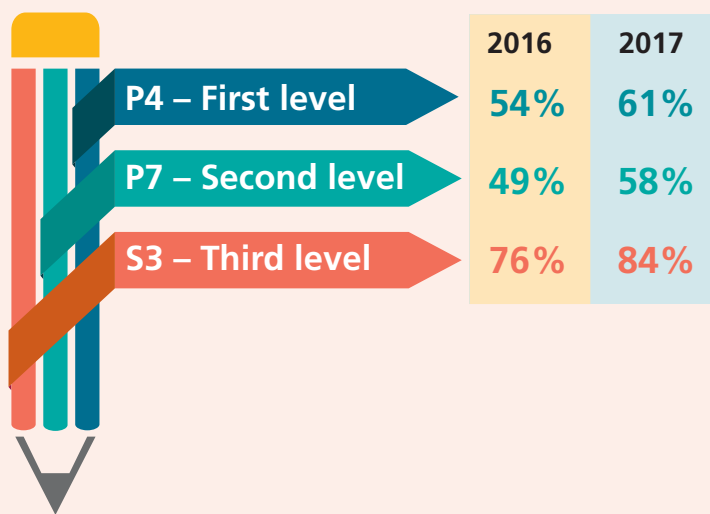
Children in SIMD Quintile 1 meeting their language milestones



### Uptake of free school meals



### Pupils achieving first, second and third level literacy by P4, P7 and S3



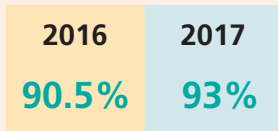
### Financial wellbeing support via telephone advice line

185 families  
125 engaged (68%)  
with  
£100,000 financial gain

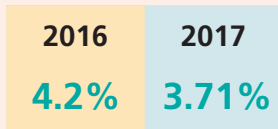


### School leaver positive destination data

Pupils from lowest 30% data zones



Gap in destinations compared to the middle 40% data zones



### 'You and Your Child' parenting support programme data

52 staff trained  
13 courses run  
119 parents participated





## Health and wellbeing

Percentage of children reaching 27/30 month 'health needs assessment' emotional and behavioural milestones



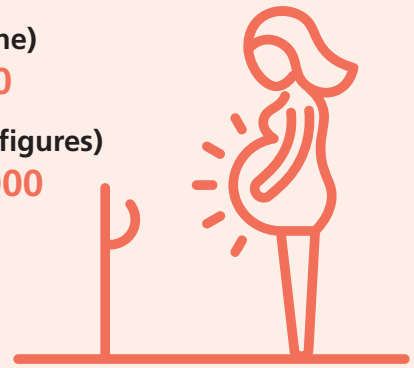
Pregnancy rate in under 16s

2014 (baseline)

5 per 1000

2015 (latest figures)

4.1 per 1000



Percentage of school roll participating in Active School

2017

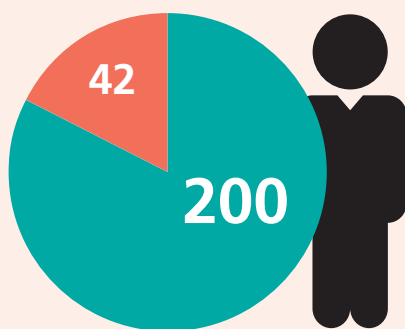


2018



Pupils benefiting from nurture support in secondary school

110 pupils



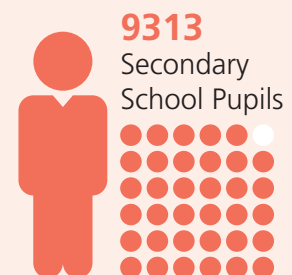
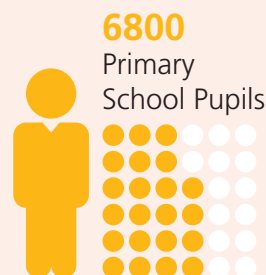
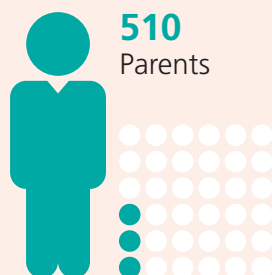
Number of staff benefiting from attachment theory training

242 staff trained

200 trained in attachment awareness raising

42 trained in 'Early Years Framework of Assessment and Intervention for Attachment and Resilience'

Participation in realigning Children's Services Consultation



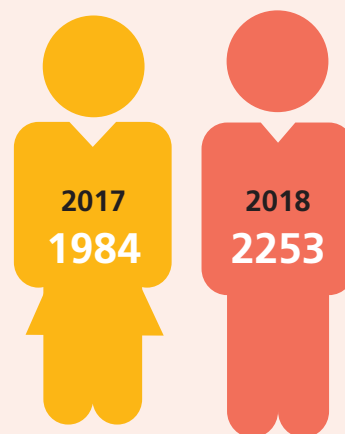
## Vulnerable groups and keeping children safe

Attainment of care experienced young people – percentage of pupils achieving 5 awards at National 5 level

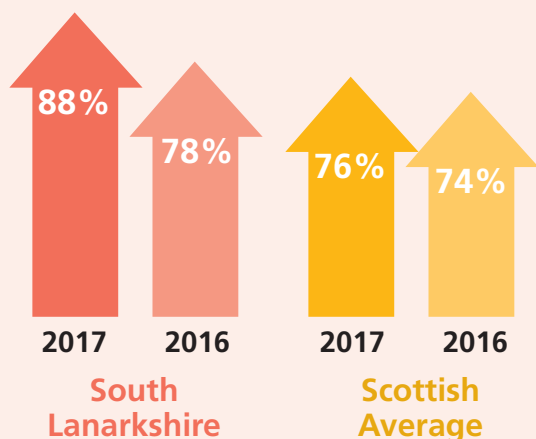
2016	2017
17.2%	22.5%



Number of children and young people reported experiencing domestic abuse who are receiving support

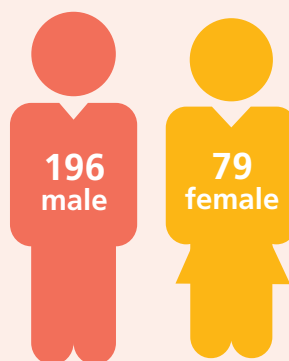


School leaver positive destinations – care experienced young people



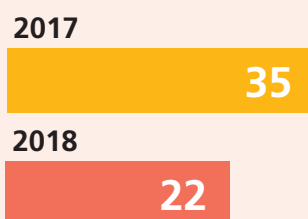
Referrals into early and effective intervention support

276 referrals in total

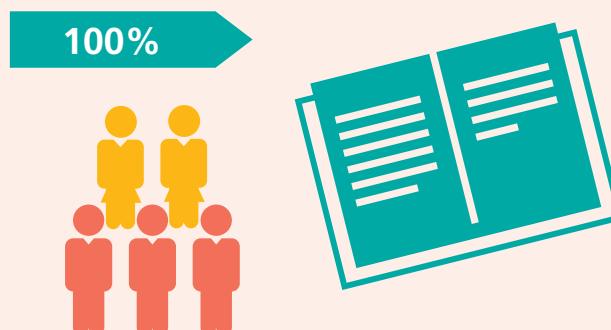


Rutherglen	49
Clydesdale	57
Hamilton	89
East Kilbride	85

The number of pre-birth registrations, children on Child Protection Register as a result of parental substance misuse



Looked after pupils with a care plan





## 7. Workforce development

Workforce development continues in many forms throughout our partnership and is a constant feature of our approach to joint working. The following activity reflects a sample of our investment into ensuring that staff are properly trained and supported to enable us to offer a high quality, well informed service to children, young people and families.

Locality events provide an opportunity for staff to stay connected with children's services strategic developments, share and hear about good practice and are well attended by staff from all agencies and at all levels. Training highlights include the following activity: Catch up Literacy – all primary schools, Active Literacy – 18 schools (588 staff benefiting). Training has been provided for Social Work re carrying out wellbeing assessments (Substance Misuse).

'You & Your Child' Training for Trainers has helped to increase the number of programmes offered (13) and training to support the implementation of the Incredible Years programme has led to increased programmes offered. Attachment based training (242 staff) has improved staff understanding of attachment across Education. South Lanarkshire Leisure have delivered Sports Coach Academy training for young volunteers. Alcohol Brief Intervention training has been offered to staff working with young people affected by alcohol and substance misuse. The new Framework for Inclusion and Equality (Practice Guide) was accompanied by training and awareness raising for Education staff.

Led by Social Work, Early and Effective Intervention (Youth Justice) training has taken place for locality staff. Raising awareness training in relation to Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE's) has also been provided as part of the Youth Justice Whole Systems Approach. Gender based violence training has been delivered to high numbers (246) and 110 staff participated in a public protection event, training and awareness raising programmes to support the 16 days of action addressing violence against women.



# Action Plan 2018-19

Our children's services plan is a three year plan and as such we seek to ensure that in each 12 month period our collective activity is focused on the areas that need to be improved and that support us on the journey to achieving our three high level outcomes and providing best possible outcomes for our children, young people and families. As a result some of the Actions and Measures which support positive change and are linked to our agreed Indicators/Dashboard need to be revised due to a range of factors, including our continuous improvement activity.

We will also continue to take cognisance of changes and developments in the national picture and legislation such as:

- Expansion of early learning and childcare
- The new model for joint children's services inspections and supporting self-evaluation framework
- Endorsing and signing up to the Scottish Care Leavers Covenant
- Supporting the requirements to produce a Child Poverty Action Report by March 2019
- The work towards producing a Children's Rights Report, which we will embed in the work to produce a Children's Version of our plan

In looking forward to year two of our plan it has been necessary to make a small number of amendments to the actions and measures set in 2017. The changes are as follows:

### Prevention and early support

#### Outcome 1. Children have the best start in life and are supported to realise their potential

- 1.2 In working to help families maximise their available income, we will provide increased partner support for raising the awareness of the Healthy Start scheme registration and support applications where required.
- 1.3 As we work to build parental understanding of child development, we will include the development of a link/s to partner websites to profile the Parenting Support Pathway.
- 1.6 Our focus on improving positive post school destinations will be on the 20% most deprived communities (i.e. SIMD quintile 1) and closing the gap between the top 20% SIMD.

### Health and wellbeing

#### Outcome 2. The health and wellbeing of children and families is improved

- 2.3 In developing our Corporate Parenting support and in particular the health wellbeing of our care experienced young people, we will work to align our activity with the Scottish Care Leavers Covenant. This was co-produced by a cross-sector alliance involved in research, delivery of services and advocacy. We aim to support the promotion of better outcomes for care leavers by giving corporate parents and other providers themed improvement approaches across a range of six key areas.
- 2.4 Improving the mental health and emotional wellbeing of young people will include the development of a Nurture Strategy for all our schools and also the implementation of the new national Low Intensity Anxiety Management (LIAM) programme in selected schools on a pilot basis.
- 2.5 Our focus on reducing drug and alcohol use amongst young people will highlight the benefits to the number of young people receiving harm reduction support through the commissioned service Addaction.



## Supporting vulnerable groups and keeping children safe

### Outcome 3. The life chances of our children with additional support needs and our most vulnerable young people are improved

- 3.4a In seeking to reduce the number of children and young people referred to the reporter on offence grounds, there will be the additional implementation of the Care and Risk Management (CARM) initiative and the Inclusion is Prevention initiative funded by the Big Lottery Early Action Systems Change Fund.
- 3.4b We will deliver a series of briefings for staff in schools throughout 2018/19 on how best to manage the staged intervention process in order to reduce the instances of persistent non-attendance of vulnerable pupils and to reduce the number of children referred to the Reporter on attendance grounds.
- 3.7 We will deliver a series of briefings for staff in schools throughout 2018/19 on how best to manage the staged intervention process, in order to reduce the instances of persistent non-attendance for ASN pupils. We will also provide good practice case studies reflecting support to families that have children with Demand Avoidant profiles.

## Further areas of challenge for our Children's Services Partnership

### Children, young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities.

In furthering our shared focus on improvement as a partnership, we will look to enhance our workforce development opportunities and provide a more joined up approach to training offered to staff.

We aim to develop a more consistent approach to the participation and engagement of service users to ensure that all children and young people have an opportunity to share their lived experiences and their views.

As a partnership we will work to improve the evidencing of impact and the positive outcomes achieved for individuals and communities, as a result of the support we provide and the services we deliver.

We will take further cognisance of Scotland's National Mental Health Strategy to inform the further development of our prevention and early intervention work to support the emotional wellbeing of our children, young people and families.

We will further develop our links with the Alcohol and Drugs Partnership (ADP) to focus more on South Lanarkshire and to ensure a greater connection with the delivery of services to young people and families.

In working with our third sector partners, we will build on the positive working relationship in place across the statutory and non-statutory sectors and strive to make the most of the resources available to children, young people and families.



We aim to develop a more consistent approach to the participation and engagement of service users to ensure that all children and young people have an opportunity to share their lived experiences and their views.



# Key contacts

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Children, young people and families will be safeguarded and supported to reach their full potential and thrive within their communities.





If you need this information in another language or format,  
please contact us to discuss how we can best meet your needs.  
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[www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk](http://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk)