Corporate parenting: taking responsibility, being accountable

CELCIS Conference
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East Renfrewshire’s Integrated Children’s Services Planning Partnership
Corporate Parenting – taking responsibility/being accountable

Corporate Parenting -
  “the formal and local partnerships needed between all local authority depts and services and associated agencies who are responsible for working together to meet the needs of Looked After Children and Young People, and Care Leavers”

(We Can and Must Do Better 2007)

Being a good corporate parent –
• Accept responsibility for the council’s LAC children/young people
• Make their needs a priority
• Seek for them the same outcomes any good parent would want for their own children

(These are our Bairns 2008)
Corporate Parents – What do they need to know?

- Who are our looked after children? – profile, gender, age, ethnicity, additional needs, where they live
- Are they meeting their shanarri outcomes
- How do we know they are meeting their outcomes – do we have all the necessary information?
- What is going well? What is not going well?
- What do we need to do more/less of? What do we need to do better?
- What do children/young people and families/carers say?

Corporate Parents – What do they need to know?
East Renfrewshire’s Integrated Children’s Planning Structure

Performance Accountability Review

Child Protection Committee

CHCP Committee

Education Committee

Acute & Specialist Children's Services

Children’s Services Core Group

Looked After / LA & Accommodated Planning Group

Young People & Youth Justice Planning Group

Keeping Children & Young People Safe Planning Group

Additional Support Needs Planning Group

Early Years Planning Group

Girfec Group

Multi Agency Violence Against Women
Context

Increasing number of children looked after rising from just over 100 in 2006/07 to 184 at present.
Rising number and share of community placements at home, with kinship carers and with foster carers.
Marked increase in the number of girls being looked after over the period.
An increase in children and young people reporting that they feel safe where they live up to 100% from 94%.
Increasing number of new health assessments for looked after children.

- **20%** poor diet
- **44%** dental caries
- **57%** emotional, social issues
- **11%** healthy weight issues
- **Alcohol** and **Tobacco** used by most

Inclusion of reviews in 2012/13 would add to overall total.
62 children looked after registered with All Access Leisure Scheme

This represents around 60% of children looked after at home.
The proportion of children having three or more placement moves has reduced. Falling from around 15% to between 5 and 6%.
Exclusions per 1,000 looked after pupils has reduced.

We do have fluctuation due to small numbers.

The three year target we set has been met with exclusions at 25 per 1,000 looked after pupils in 2012/13.

Attendance for looked after children is at around 88 per cent.
Referrals to the Reporter had been increasing over the long-term. We saw the positive impact of early intervention halt this. There seem to be wider socio-economic factors putting upward pressure on referrals in recent years. The balance remains consistently in favour of care and protection.
The percentage of young people leaving care entering positive destinations fell into the late 2000s. Since the turn of the decade this has begun to turn around with 50% in employment, education or training in 2012/13. We expect initiatives such as the ‘Family Firm’ to have further positive impact on this.
Where next?

- Expand suite of PIs
- More qualitative information to complement the hard data
- More benchmarking with appropriate benchmarking local authorities group and Scotland nationally
PIs for future

- Safe – care leavers in their home/neighbourhood
- Healthy – emotional and mental wellbeing
- Achieving - Family firm/MCMC. Use of the Imagination Library
- Nurtured - Housing tenancy/accommodation sustainability
- Active/Inclusion – participation in leisure and sport
- Respected/Responsible – anti social behaviour/offending/criminal justice/addictions
- Inclusion – in decision making