

Children and Young People Services

End of year Review 21/22








Names of Cabinet Member(s)- Councillor Jason Hughes and Councillor Stephen Marshall

Director- Sally Ann Jenkins

Head of Service- Natalie Poyner

Introduction

This is the **Children and Young People** service update on the progress being made against the objectives, actions, performance, and risk for the period 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022. Service plans have been designed to support the delivery of the [Council's Corporate Plan 2017-22](#). As one of the 44 public bodies, Newport Council must consider the Well-being of Future Generations Act in the delivery of its plans and the sustainable development principle of meeting our duty under the Act.

Long term		The importance of balancing short-term needs with the need to safeguard the ability to also meet long-term needs.
Prevention		How acting to prevent problems occurring or getting worse, may help public bodies meet their objectives.
Integration		Considering how the public body's well-being objectives may impact upon each of the well-being goals, on their other objectives, or on the objectives of other public bodies.
Collaboration		Acting in collaboration with any other person (or different parts of the body itself) that could help the body to meet its well-being objectives.
Involvement		The importance of involving people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals, and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the area, which the body serves.

The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 requires Newport Council to Self-Assess:

- The effectiveness of its functions.
- Consider if it is using its resources, economically, efficiently and effectively.
- Whether the governance arrangements are effective for securing these areas.

This report will be used to support the Council's Self-Assessment and will be integrated into the Council's Annual Well-being / Corporate Self-Assessment Report published in 2022. Any recommendations raised by the Council's Scrutiny Committee(s) and service area will be considered as part of the Council's assessment.

Children and Young People [Service Plan 2021/22](#)

The *Children and Young People* service plan focuses on the delivery of the following Wellbeing Objective(s) in the Corporate Plan 2017-22:

- **Well-being Objective 3-** To enable people to be healthy, independent and resilient; and
- **Strategic Recovery 3-** Promote and protect the health and well-being of people, safeguarding our most vulnerable and building strong, resilient communities

The 2021/22 Service Plan has 5 objectives that are focused on:

Objective 1- Deliver effective services to support children to safely remain with their families

Prevention and early intervention are key drivers in the Social Services Wellbeing Act (SSWA). Working with families with a strengths-based model is an integral part of working in partnership with families to achieve their goals and ensure they build the resilience to support their children safely and meet their aspirations without access to specialist services. Focusing on these services is key to ensuring children are safe and happy and is integral to the overall work of safely reducing our looked after children numbers.

Objective 2- Improve outcomes for children in care and care leavers including a focus of safe reunification

Children who become looked after and care leavers will have experienced significant early disadvantage and trauma. As children who are looked after they should benefit from corporate parenting which ensures they have access to good quality services to improve their life choices and ensure they are able to fulfil their potential. The key areas of home lives, education, health, leisure activities and transition to adulthood must be part of the corporate parenting agenda. As part of this objective supporting reunification where safe is an imperative.

For care leavers Hidden Ambitions published by the Children's Commissioner will underpin the actions.

Objective 3- Ensure a range of placements are available for looked after children

Newport has a mix of in-house residential services and externally commissioned services. Newport is in a very different position to most local authorities as it has 3 residential homes and 1 short breaks facility for children with disabilities. Even though Newport has in house residential resources and a good range of fostering placements there has been a need to also commission external residential and fostering provision. These placements are for a mix of children who have complex and challenging behaviours, risky behaviours and placements are children with significant disabilities. The dearth of placements has led to a very strong provider's market with generally poor outcomes for children.

This work under this objective seeks to expand the in-house placement provision and improve the quality of the placement offer.

Objective 4- Prevent offending and re-offending by children and young people

The Youth Justice Service (YJS) is a partnership across a range of services within the Council and more widely with other agencies. The provision is laid out as key to preventing offending and re-offending by children and young people. The service offers a range of interventions and delivers against the requirements of the Youth Justice Board and the criminal justice system.

The service manager for YJS and the Head of Children's Services with the Local Management Board are responsible for the delivery of the plan

NCC Restructure

From 2022/23 Newport City Council has implemented a new structure that will support the Council's new Corporate Plan 2022-27 and deliver the manifesto aims of the Council's Cabinet. The below provides an overview of the teams and functions that will be moving to and from Children and Young People service area:

Service Area Team / Function	Moving To / From
Preventions	Moving to Prevention and Inclusion

Cabinet Member(s) / Head of Service Executive Summary

21/22 has been partly dominated by the pandemic. However as previous years Children's Services have continued to operate throughout providing safeguarding and support for the most vulnerable children, young people and families in Newport. Children's Services staff in all areas of service have sustained provision and responded positively to the challenges of working differently and working in a hybrid model. Despite the changes and demands of the pandemic and the changing landscape of a new way of working, Children's Services has continued to develop and ensure the best possible services are available across all areas of our work.

The aftermath of the pandemic on families is continuing to emerge and has been reflected in both the increasing numbers and complexity of referrals to Children's Services. Despite the increases the number of looked after children has remained stable and there has been no significant rise in the number of children on the child protection register. Social work teams continue to engage with partners to ensure a whole systems approach is taken to ensure that children remain safely at home with their families.

An assurance check with Care Inspectorate Wales in May 2021 was positive and while there are continued areas for development, the services are delivering effectively and safely. The following are observations from the Inspectorate feedback

- "In children's services we found an early intervention model through which children can access a range of services supported by the Space Well-being Panel which comprised a wide range of statutory and third sector organisations."
- "Staff have a shared commitment to work effectively with families within the constraints of the pandemic."
- "We received positive feedback from care leavers who were highly complementary about personal advisors (PAs). They said it was important to be listened to and their voices heard."

There are a number of projects underway in Children Services which include:

- Maethu Cymru/Foster Wales was launched across Wales as a drive to increase the number of foster carers in Local Authorities and to ensure the quality of care.
- In residential care the work at Windmill Farm is near completion and approval has been granted to develop annexes. Collaboration with the regional and Action for children is being scoped to develop further residential provision.
- Properties have been identified to progress with a care leaver project and 16-18 year old supported accommodation provision.
- Newport is leading on a regional approach to assist Gwent Local Authorities in building an infrastructure to meet the need of the Unaccompanied Children arriving through the now mandated National Transfer Scheme.
- Our Disabled Children's Team continues develop services to promote the independence of some of the most vulnerable children we support.
- There have been a number of activity events that have been facilitated for our children looked after and unaccompanied minors in collaboration with the Dragons Ruby.

22/23 will bring some challenges for Childrens Services as a result of the national recruitment and retention challenge, aspirational legislation by Welsh Government and the international crisis. The Welsh Local Authorities will need to build greater placement sufficiently in an already challenging landscape in order to respond to the eliminate profit agenda in social care which Authorities are already beginning to see the impact of. The Basic Income Pilot for carer

leavers will be launched on July 1st and again there are some anxieties amongst Local Authorities in terms of the impact this may have on our young people. We will need to think innovatively in order to entice people into the social care profession and ensure our employment offer will assist in retention.

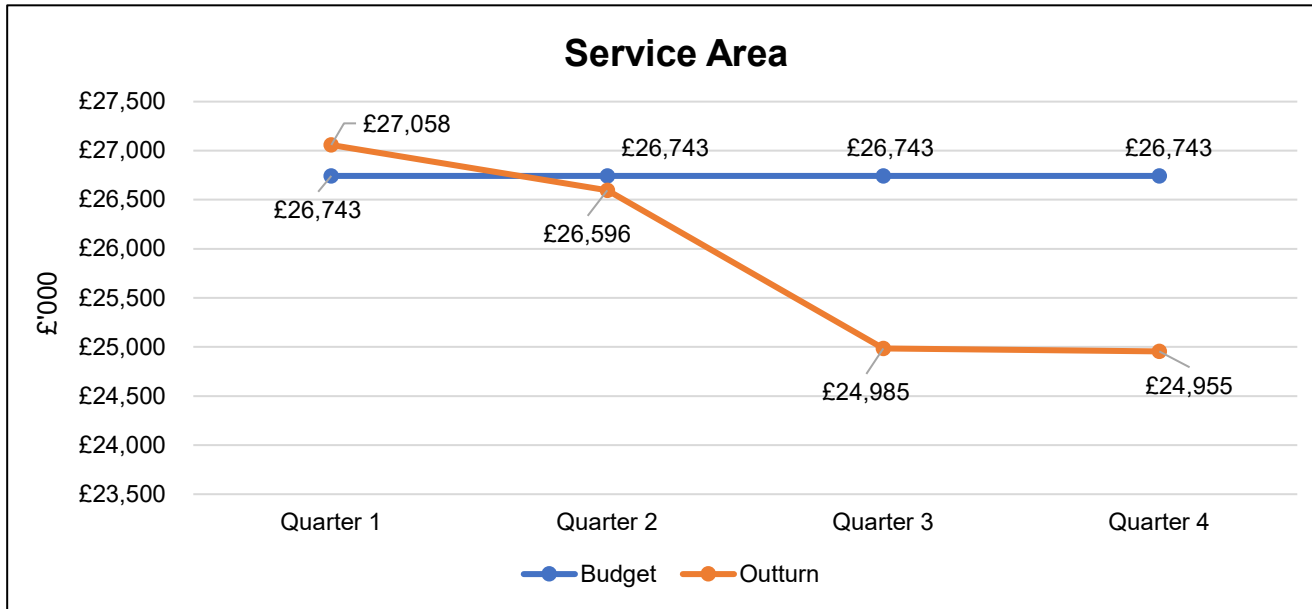
Despite the challenges Children Services has many opportunities in in the next year to evaluate services and develop needs led provision in order to safely meet the needs of children and families. We have a new Service Manager group who bring a wealth of experience and who will be instrumental in developing our Service Plan moving forward.

Videos

To support the Children Services report, several videos have been included in the Scrutiny papers / pack to demonstrate the impact activities and services have had on children and young people that have been supported in 2021/22. Consent has been provided by individuals involved in the videos.

- Beatboxing and Rap
- Gorge Walking
- Sensory Group
- Small Woods
- Wellies Family Event

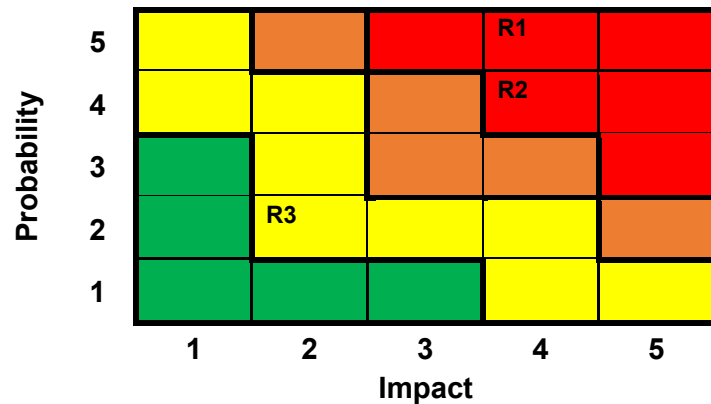
Children and Young People Services Revenue Outturn 2021/22



This provides an overview of the service area outturn revenue position at the end of the financial year.

Revenue and Capital Finance reporting can also be found in Cabinet reports for 2021/22 using the link [here](#).

Service Area Risks at 31st March 2022



Service Area Risk Heat Map Key (Quarter 4 2021/22)	
R1	– Pressure on Delivery of Children Services (Corporate Risk)
R2	– Family Court Cases
R3	– Safeguarding

Corporate and Service Risks are reported to the Council's [Governance and Audit Committee](#) and [Cabinet](#) every quarter.

Glossary

Actions (Red / Amber / Green)

C	Green RAG – Completed
%	Green RAG – Action is on course to be completed within timescale
%	Amber RAG – There are potential issues which unless addressed the action might not be achieved within agreed timescales.
%	Red RAG – The action requires immediate action to achieve delivery within agreed timescales.
?	Unknown RAG (Data missing)

Abbreviations

CASCADE- Children’s Social Care Research and Development Centre

CIW – Care Inspectorate Wales

MACE – Multi Agency Child Exploitation

OPCC- Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner

NTS – National Transfer Scheme

PNN Referral – Referral from the Police

UASC – Unaccompanied Asylum Seeker Children

WG – Welsh Government

Programmes and Projects

This provides an update on the delivery of key programmes and projects that contribute towards the delivery of the Corporate Plan 2017-22. This covers the progress of delivery from 1st April to 31st March 2022.

Programme / Project Title	Brief Programme / Project Overview	Anticipated Programme / Project Completion Date	Q2 % Project Completed	Q4 % of Project Completed	Commentary
Residential Children's Homes	Increase the number of placements for children available in residential care in Newport by developing LA provision. In so doing children can be cared for locally and are more able to develop resilience and sustain their local connections. Ensuring we are aspirational in the care of our children is part of this ambition as well as promoting the best use of our resources. This links with regional developments and assists in providing support for children with the highest levels of vulnerability. The planned developments for the coming year are Rosedale home, which is opening in March 2021, the proposals to develop the annexes at Rosedale and Windmill Farm.	Quarter 4 2022/23	65%	70%	There continues to be delays in the building and developing of sites and handovers from Norse are now proposed as July for Windmill Farm and October for Rosedale annexes.
Review of existing Children's Homes	This project is a further development to improve the in- house residential offer and ensure all provision is of suitable quality and offers care of the highest standard.	Quarter 4 2021/22	90%	C	This project has now been completed. The review of services is a continual process and remains ongoing.
Unaccompanied Asylum Seeker Children (UASC)	Newport and Cardiff LA's have agreed to support unaccompanied asylum- seeking children from the National Transfer Scheme. We have the infrastructure to support these children/young people. In order to manage this process a team is being developed and consultation with stakeholders has commenced. There will be a need for a corporate strategy in response to meeting these children/young people's needs.	Quarter 4 2021/22 Quarter 4 2022/23	50%	80%	The collaboration with Cardiff ended in December 2021 when the National Transfer Scheme (NTS) became mandated. Welsh LA's agreed that collaboration would continue but on a LA regional basis. Newport is now the lead LA for Gwent and has appointed a Project Worker funded by WG to assist in the development of services for UASC across the region.

Programme / Project Title	Brief Programme / Project Overview	Anticipated Programme / Project Completion Date	Q2 % Project Completed	Q4 % of Project Completed	Commentary
Child Protection Processes	Following research undertaken by Barnardo's to review child protection processes and experiences in Newport a stakeholder group has been tasked with implementing the key learning outcomes to improve partnership approaches and outcomes for professionals and families helping support children to remain within their families where safe to do so.	Quarter 4 2021/22	90%	C	Child Protection processes have been revised and are now embedded in Children Services processes.
Rosedale Annexes	There is currently an ICF expression of interest regarding Rosedale annexes with WG. This project would require planning permission and project management. Additional annexes would enable NCC to have sufficient emergency care and also allow the selling of placements across Gwent.	Quarter 4 2021/22 Quarter 3 2022/23	25%	30%	Handover of Rosedale annexes is likely to be October/November 2022. Planning has been approved and there have been some delays. Tender is likely to go out in two weeks and therefore should start to progress.
Proposed Closure of Cambridge House	To ensure the on-going quality and provision of high-quality care. Cambridge House is no longer suitable for a children's home due to the location and state of repair.	Quarter 4 2021/22	95%	C	Cambridge House has closed and children have settled in alternative accommodation.

Programme / Project Title	Brief Programme / Project Overview	Anticipated Programme / Project Completion Date	Q2 % Project Completed	Q4 % of Project Completed	Commentary
Single Unified Safeguarding Review (SUSR)	Lead on Welsh Government and Home Office project to ensure Domestic Homicide Reviews enhance practitioner learning and combine with adult/child practice reviews. Produce a single repository in Wales for all learning outcomes.	Quarter 4 2021/22	75%	C	The SUSR policy and process is complete. Welsh Government agreed Ministerial meetings going forward with 1st Minister to Chair. Governance and process to be managed through safeguarding boards across Wales. WG Hub to be central to access to learning repository hosted by Cardiff University.
Regional Independent Domestic Violence Advocates (IDVA) service	Outsource commissioning of the Regional IDVA service. Third sector consortia to manage and develop further the regional resource funded by VAWDASV Welsh Government grant and Police and Crime Commissioner Office.	Quarter 4 2022/23	75%	95%	Office of Police and Crime Commissioner will be the lead commissioner for the IDVA service. To tender on Sell to Wales during the summer with a tender to be awarded by 1st April 2023.
Child Exploitation response model	Newport is one of the leading Local Authorities in Wales delivering a response to exploitation through the implementation of a multi-agency strategy meeting model and Exploitation Toolkit which has now extended to all 5 Gwent Local Authorities. Building on this multi-agency approach we have recruited an Exploitation Social Work to provide direct support to tackle exploitation and improve outcomes for children and young people.	Quarter 4 2021/22 Quarter 2 2022/23	50%	50%	Evaluation of the work is underway with CASCADE until August 2022.

Workforce Planning

To support the delivery of the Service Plan and Corporate Plan objectives, service areas in collaboration with the Council's Human Resources team have identified three key actions to improve the capacity and capability of its workforce in 2021/22

Action	Outcome(s) of Action	Action Start Date	Anticipated Completion Date	% of Action completed	Commentary
Review and update outdated job descriptions and to genericise some key roles (where possible)	Provide consistency of job roles and responsibilities across Children and Young People Services.	1 st April 2021	31 st March 2022	C	The work continues across Social Services with input from key staff.
Review the current recruitment strategy and implement new ways of advertising roles (including updated job adverts, social media and video adverts).	Working with HR and Senior Managers we will update current mechanisms to attract people to the service.	1 st April 2021	31 st March 2022	C	Work in this area will be ongoing for the foreseeable future. Social media is proving useful in our recruitment strategy and we now have a suite of strong materials.
Develop an expanded social work student scheme with consideration for the option of including support for the Open University route to social work qualification.	Work with training and Adult Services to review the existing course and consider expansion options.	1 st April 2021	31 st March 2022	C	We continue to explore alternative ways to both recruit and retain staff. The National challenges continue. However, we have recently had more applicants for some posts. The pressures are across both Childrens and Adults. This will be an ongoing pressure.

Objectives and Action Update (31st March 2022)

This is an update on the progress against service objectives and actions to the end of quarter 4 (31st March 2022). The tables below also include the RAG status and % completion reported at the Mid-Year Review point. A link to the report can be found [here](#).

Well-being Objective 1 – Deliver effective services to support children to safely remain with their families							
Action No.	Action Description	Action Outcome(s)	Start Date	Anticipated Completion Date	Q2 % Action Completed	Q4 % Action Completed	Action Commentary
1	Completion and implementation of Welsh Government action plan to work towards reducing the numbers of looked after children.	The delivery of all the actions in this section will support Children Services objective to reduce the number of looked after children and enable effective early intervention and prevention.	1 st April 2021	31 st March 2022	80%	80%	The most recent return to WG covers the fourth quarter. Our Rapid Response service is delivering strong outcomes with families and avoiding ongoing service delivery. Over the year we saw a reduction of 5 in the total number of children who are looked after. The number of UASC continues to rise as part of a planned programme and we will shortly reach the expected number for LAs
2	Explore sustainability options for the Early Intervention Project within the Preventions Team for post March 2021.	Funding for the continuity of this partnership project has been secured for 21/22. Awaiting written confirmation of funding from Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.	1 st April 2021	31 st March 2022	30%	C	Further funding has been secured for 22/23 from partners in Office of Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) allowing the project to continue. The project has proved to be very successful addressing gaps previously, where families were closed down to the Safeguarding Hub following a PNN referral. These families now receive support within a targeted timeframe and a plan is put in place. The aim is to catch families earlier and offer the right support, reducing the need for police call outs and referrals to the Hub.
3	Develop a rapid response provision at the front door of Children's Services utilising the skill set in existing provision.	The Rapid response service has now commenced within the safeguarding HUB and is supporting families at the earliest opportunity in an intense and immediate way	1 st April 2021	31 st March 2022	90%	C	This is team is increasing in size which will assist with capacity.

Well-being Objective 1 – Deliver effective services to support children to safely remain with their families

Action No.	Action Description	Action Outcome(s)	Start Date	Anticipated Completion Date	Q2 % Action Completed	Q4 % Action Completed	Action Commentary
		through direct interventions aimed at helping keep families together. Reporting on outcomes is part of the model and this will be evaluated after the first year's delivery.					
4	Work with the Pathway Service to support reunification of Children who are looked after (CLA) to family/friends.	The delivery of this action in will support Children Services objective to reduce the number of looked after children and enable effective early intervention and prevention. Introduction of Lifelong Links across Pathway	1 st April 2021	31 st March 2022	90%	C	This work continues in order to ensure safe reunification for children with families.
5	Complete and deliver actions agreed in the post safeguarding joint inspection action plan	This action has been delayed by the pandemic and will be taken forward across a number of areas notably the development of the child exploitation protocol.	1 st April 2020	31 st March 2022	80%	C	Toolkit shared with CM. Toolkit and Strategy presented to Safeguarding Board with National discussions ongoing. Safeguarding Hub arrangements now embedded. As are the MACE meetings and the role of the specialist social worker. Further specialist posts being considered.
6	The Public Law Working Group reform of Family Justice will be published in July 2020. Children's Services staff with legal colleagues will engage in the implementation strategy for the rollout of the changes	Publication was delayed until March 2021. This work will focus on Special Guardianship, Section 76, processes during the pre-proceedings period and Supervision Orders. Supporting children to safely remain with their families is the primary outcome with improved performance in the court arena as a secondary outcome.	30 th June 2020	31st March 2022 31 st March 2023	80%	80%	The National delays have continued to pose some challenges. However, internally we continue to improve our pre-proceedings work. CIW will be undertaking work with all LAs throughout 22/23 to assess this area of development.

Well-being Objective 1 – Deliver effective services to support children to safely remain with their families

Action No.	Action Description	Action Outcome(s)	Start Date	Anticipated Completion Date	Q2 % Action Completed	Q4 % Action Completed	Action Commentary
7	To develop a sustainable model to deliver a consistent, coordinated, local and multi-agency response to all age safeguarding, early intervention and prevention at the front door of CS. This work will involve the consideration of systems, processes and resources of partner agencies to develop a model that reflects contributions from key agencies.	The delivery of all the actions in this section will support Children Services objective to reduce the number of looked after children and enable effective early intervention and prevention.	1 st April 2021	31 st March 2023	90%	C	The safeguarding Hub continues to evolve and relationships are developing regionally and with partners.

Well-being Objective 1 – Deliver effective services to support children to safely remain with their families

Action No.	Action Description	Action Outcome(s)	Start Date	Anticipated Completion Date	Q2 % Action Completed	Q4 % Action Completed	Action Commentary
8	Future direction of travel for Early Intervention and Prevention services to be considered with alternative models of delivery explored	A qualitative and consistent approach to early support services is achieved across all Newport communities, incorporating a high standard of safeguarding practice and improved outcomes for families and children.	1 st April 2021	31 st March 2023	25%	C	A new Prevention and Inclusion service area has been established and this area of work will begin in 2022/23 as part of the restructure.
9	Pilot Project in the Llanwern cluster addressing school exclusions and its link to criminality and exploitation.	To have local evidence to support a move towards system change and respond to children differently	1 st April 2021	31 st March 2023	30%	C	This pilot project continues to progress - however has been significantly impacted on by the pandemic. The aim is to produce an evaluation report throughout 2022/23
10	National Referral Mechanism (NRM)	Newport has recently been successful in a bid to host local decision making for National Referral Mechanism cases where children are being trafficked and or exploited. This will enable local agencies that understand the needs of young people in Gwent to make decisions on their behalf and ensure they get the appropriate support in a timely way.	1 st April 2021	31 st March 2022	50%	C	The project has been extended due to Home Office funding this until March 2023 due to the success
11	Continue the work started with GDAS to	As per the objective	1 st April 2021	31 st March 2022	75%	C	This project has been completed and no further funding has been made

Well-being Objective 1 – Deliver effective services to support children to safely remain with their families							
Action No.	Action Description	Action Outcome(s)	Start Date	Anticipated Completion Date	Q2 % Action Completed	Q4 % Action Completed	Action Commentary
	base multiagency staff in frontline teams.						available to extend this pilot however it would be desirable for the Service Manager and Head of Service to consider this intervention for further funding streams in the future.
12	Work with colleagues in legal services to develop an agreed set of checklists to improve shared approaches to pre proceedings, PLO, and legal meetings.	As per the objective	1 st April 2019	31 st March 2022	75%	C	Ongoing work to reduce the number of children the LA are issuing proceedings on has been effective due to this work stream and the approaches will continue
13	Monitor the effectiveness of Family Group Conferencing (FGC).	As per the objective	1 st January 2020	31 st March 2022	80%	C	FGC numbers continue to remain steady and the impact has been evidenced by Barnardos that rates of legal statuses have either reduced to remain the same and therefore evidencing the impact of having the FGC service within Newport.

Well-being Objective 2 – Improve outcomes for children in care and care leavers including a focus on safe reunification

Action No.	Action Description	Action Outcome(s)	Start Date	Anticipated Completion Date	Q2 % Action Completed	Q4 % Action Completed	Action Commentary
1	Increased housing options for care leavers. Currently Newport has a limited range of choices for housing for care leavers especially with a range of suitable support. This action will seek to address this gap. Work has already commenced and will continue.	All actions in this section will contribute to improving outcomes for children in care and care leavers.	1 st April 2021	31st March 2022 31 st March 2023	90%	90%	This continues to be a priority given the lack of social housing options.
2	Continue to develop a range of options for CLA to engage in work experience and have the offer of a mentor.		1 st April 2021	31st March 2022 31 st March 2023	40%	40%	This continues to be a challenge due to covid restrictions but will be a priority moving forward.
3	Continue to work with the Pathway Service and stakeholders to ensure that all CLA are offered opportunities to develop independent living skills to ensure that young people transition into independent living successfully.		1 st April 2021	31st March 2022 31 st March 2023	80%	90%	This work is ongoing and developing across the whole of the service.
4	Work to the revised guidance for Corporate Parenting from Welsh Government (due in summer 2020) with the Corporate Parenting Forum and potentially other partners to build understanding of shared responsibility.	Revised guidance has been delayed and will now be published during 2021.	1 st June 2020	31 st March 2022	0%	0%	We still await the guidance from Welsh Government. Corporate Parenting meets and is a positive and constructive forum for Member and Officers as well as key stakeholders. This action has been marked Green as completion of this action remains outside of NCC control.

Well-being Objective 2 – Improve outcomes for children in care and care leavers including a focus on safe reunification

Action No.	Action Description	Action Outcome(s)	Start Date	Anticipated Completion Date	Q2 % Action Completed	Q4 % Action Completed	Action Commentary
5	In light of the learning during lockdown we will review our existing arrangements for family time to improve the offer for children and families: i) To develop a comprehensive framework of all aspects of family time. ii) Continue to deliver family time virtually as a positive for families.	Family time (contact) has been successfully delivered during the pandemic with staff and families supported to ensure the service has continued despite lockdown restrictions. A policy for taking the delivery of the service forward is due to be completed with a focus on each individual child's needs being considered and met.	1 st April 2021	31 st October 2022	75%	75%	family time has now almost completely reverted back to pre-pandemic practice and therefore fully functioning. Within the next quarter further discussions can take place to optimise the skill set of the staff - to undertake Life Journey Work and other support for CP Teams.
6	Public Care (IPC) and the Gwent Children and Families Partnership looked at various models of mental health care for children looked after with complex needs, and decided that the MyST model was the most effective to roll out across Gwent. This was agreed as a priority area, due to the poor outcomes for this particular group and also the cost of private residential care. The team have now been appointed and the model will need to be embedded and supported by CS and other stakeholders.	Publication was delayed until March 2021. This work will focus on Special Guardianship, Section 76, processes during the pre-proceedings period and Supervision Orders. Supporting children to safely remain with their families is the primary outcome with improved performance in the court arena as a secondary outcome.	1 st April 2021	31 st March 2022	90%	C	MyST is now fully embedded within Newport.

Well-being Objective 3 – Ensure a range of placements are available for looked after children							
Action No.	Action Description	Action Outcome(s)	Start Date	Anticipated Completion Date	Q2 % Action Completed	Q4 % Action Completed	Action Commentary
1	Continue with the development of the residential provision (including Windmill Farm) across Newport in order to increase the number of children who can be cared for safely in Newport.	Promote the return of Out of County foster children to Newport. These new homes will increase the number of placements available to Newport Children also allow potential to 'sell' placements to other Gwent LA's.	1 st April 2019	31 st March 2023	65%	70%	There have been delays in building and development of Windmill Farm site. Handover is likely to be the end of July. Rosedale annexes will likely to be handed over by the end of November time. Plans are continuing to consider how we develop UASC residential provision for Gwent-development of a regional home is under discussion.
2	Team to develop a joint approach to supporting foster carers and children looked after.	Placements and increase the number of children in settled placements.	1 st July 2020	31 st July 2021	C	N/A	We are still attempting to recruit MyST Foster carers. We are working on supporting families and developing systems and support.
3	To develop NCC's When I'm Ready (WIR) provision for care leavers and review the Supported Lodging (SL) provision to ensure consistency.	Processes are in place are clear for all stakeholders. There is clarity in SL placements and supports.	1 st April 2021	31 st March 2022	80%	C	This has been successful and policies and procedures are now in place.

Well-being Objective 4- Prevent offending and re-offending by children and young people							
Action No.	Action Description	Action Outcome(s)	Start Date	Anticipated Completion Date	Q2 % Action Completed	Q4 % Action Completed	Action Commentary
1	Youth Justice Service to engage on local and national youth justice issues considering further service development in line with Welsh Government blueprint.	All of the action in this section work towards prevention of offending and re-offending.	1 st April 2021	31 st March 2022	70%	C	The Service Manager and Team Manger are visible and present in a range of forums and work streams to represent Youth Justice and Children's Services. MAPAPA Implementation Group, NRM, Youth Justice Sector Improvement Partnership, Hwb Doeth and Youth Justice Anti-Poverty group are just some of these. These will be ongoing and evolve as need.
2	Further develop the support provided by the Youth Justice Service (YJS) incorporating robust early intervention and prevention work; and future service transformation work.	Holistic and timely support is available to all children accessing the service from a multi-agency team, and built into their intervention plans. Enhanced understanding of contextual risks impacting on the child.	1 st April 2021	31st March 2022 31 st March 2023	70%	90%	The YJS has progressed this area and now has a wider range of interventions available, and is working collaboratively with partners and key stakeholders. A new service plan will be developed by the end of June 2022 with new intervention programmes clearly reported on.
3	Build on work on Contextual harm and exploitation safeguarding research, and embed new approaches to understanding, and responding to young people's experiences of significance.	Lead worker on Contextual Safeguarding to undertake Community Assessments with key partners. Establish robust links across children's services to share learning and tools.	1 st April 2019	31 st December 2021	C	N/A	Understanding of contextual safeguarding has now improved within the YJS and forms part of day to day assessment, risk management and safety planning practice. Work continues with relevant partners to explore ways of building knowledge of community contextual risks to inform actions.

Performance Measures (31st March 2022)

This is an update on the quarterly, half-yearly and annual performance measures for the service area to 31st March 2022. The Performance reported in the table below is also compared to the last four years (where data is available). Commentary is provided for all red and amber measures and discretionary for Green measures.

The performance measures used in Children Services are based upon the Welsh Government 'Performance and Improvement Framework for Social Services' guidance which was introduced in 2020/21. As there is new methodology and requirements under the Framework, performance comparisons have not been provided between 2017/18 and 2019/20.

For the performance measures reported in the table below, targets have not been set against them as the Council does not have any control over the people presented to them throughout the year. Previous years performance data is provided to enable comparison against previous financial year's performance.

Performance Measure	2021/22 Actual Performance	2020/21 Actual Performance	2019/20 Actual Performance	2018/19 Actual Performance	2017/18 Actual Performance
National (NEW) CH001- The number of contacts for children received by statutory Social Services during the year.	11,311	10,104	No Data	No Data	No Data
National (NEW) CH/005b- The number where physical punishment by a parent or carer was the only factor	85	144	No Data	No Data	No Data
National (NEW) CH/015- The total number of children with a care and support plan at 31 st March	945	978	No Data	No Data	No Data
National (NEW) CH/036- The total number of children removed (de-registered) from the child protection register in the last 12 months	207	148	No Data	No Data	No Data
National (New) CH/033- The total number of children on the child protection register at 31 st March.	127	158	No Data	No Data	No Data
National (NEW) CH/033- The total number of reports of child exploitation received during the year	122	62	No Data	No Data	No Data
National (NEW) CH/037- The number of children becoming looked after during the year.	116	91	No Data	No Data	No Data
Local (NEW) CH/L002- The number of children who ceased being looked after during the year.	120	92	No Data	No Data	No Data

Performance Measure	2021/22 Actual Performance	2020/21 Actual Performance	2019/20 Actual Performance	2018/19 Actual Performance	2017/18 Actual Performance
National (NEW) CH/043 - The total number of children looked after at 31 st March who have experienced three or more placements during the year.	50	26	No Data	No Data	No Data
National CH/045 - The total number of children who returned home during the year	33	36	No Data	No Data	No Data
National (NEW) CA/010 - The total number of contacts to statutory social services by young carers or professionals contacting the service on their behalf received during the year. Provided by Barnardos	127	74	No Data	No Data	No Data
National (NEW) CH/L003 – Number of Foster Carers registered with the Local Authority (Inc Kinship, Supported Lodgings General and Respite)	161	159	No Data	No Data	No Data
National (NEW) CH/L004 – Number of Childrens Residential Fostering Beds	22	20	No Data	No Data	No Data
National (NEW) CH/L005 – Number of Children in care proceedings during the year	56	44	No Data	No Data	No Data
National CH/039 The number of children looked after at 31 st March.	372	378	No Data	No Data	No Data

Key

Green	Green – Performance is above Target
Amber RAG	Amber RAG – Performance is below Target (0-15%)
Red RAG	Red RAG – Performance is Under achieving (+15%)
?	Unknown RAG (Data missing)

Performance Measure	21-22 Actual Performance	Target 2021/22	20/21 Actual Performance	19/20 Actual Performance	18/19 Actual Performance	17/18 Actual Performance	Commentary
Local (Youth Justice Service) - % of young people in suitable accommodation at the end of a statutory order.	96.6%	95%	89.6%	91.7%	95.8%	86.5%	Not required
Local (Youth Justice Service) – Average 'Post 16' Hours at End of Intervention	15 hours	15 hours	15.8 hours	14.4 hours	16.4 hours	No Data	Not required
Local (Youth Justice Service) - Average number of hours 'School Age' children attend at the end of an Intervention.	19.6 hours	17 hours	15 hours	16.7 hours	16.8 hours	16.5 hours	Not Required
Local (Youth Justice Service) – Total Number of first Time Entrants	13	20	38	25	12	No Data	Not Required
Local (Youth Justice Service) - % of All cases that are community resolutions and preventative outcome.	88.9%	70%	52.6%	62.6%	76.5%	No Data	Not required