

**FALKIRK COUNCIL SOCIAL WORK SERVICES  
FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC POUND ANNUAL REPORTING STATEMENT  
2014/15**

Organisation Name	Barnardo's
Project	Cluaran Service
Agreement Dates	2014-15
Name of Lead Officer	Matthew Davies; David Mackay

**A OVERALL ORGANISATION AIMS**

**Summary of Key Aims & Objectives**

1. The Service has a target of providing support to sixty young people and their families in any one year. The service aim is to reduce the number of young people referred to the Service being subsequently placed in a Residential School setting outwith Falkirk. (The Service has an agreed target of maintaining 75% of Service Users in the Community).
2. Families and young people receiving support from the Service will have their strengths, abilities and coping strategies enhanced by receiving a range of interventions including Individual Support, Educational Support, Family Work and Group Work. The outcomes in relation to these interventions are described below.
3. The Service will support the development of professional skill and ability across Services to support young people with emotional and behavioural difficulties. This includes the development of programmes devised with Partner Agencies with a view to disseminating effective practice and improving outcomes for young people

The Service also participates in a range of groups within Falkirk aimed at developing good practice and improving outcomes for young people. These include Depute Chair of the Corporate Parent and Vulnerable Groups Workstream; membership of the Children's Commission and Voluntary Sector Children's Services Steering Group.

List of Agreed Outcomes

When working with young people and families the Service identifies progress through Barnardo's Outcomes Framework. This involves the family, young person, and other professionals agreeing the focus of our work based on a range of outcomes in line with SHANARRI Wellbeing Indicators. This would mean identifying the 2 -5 five most significant and specific outcomes for each young person and family that would make the greatest difference. A programme of support would then be based around an Action Plan targeting these areas. For the purpose of this Report these outcomes have been presented in a way which shows an aggregate of the young people and families' progress across the range of outcomes rather than identify the specific outcomes for each young person and family.

Why Service/Project is Funded Externally Rather than by the Council

The Cluaran Service has developed specialist knowledge and skills relating to the target Service User Group. Barnardo's have expertise in this area of Service Delivery and also joint fund the Service. This ensures added value and value for money.

## **B ACTUAL PERFORMANCE vs. OBJECTIVES / AGREED OUTCOMES**

### Summary of Key Achievements

**1** Between April 2014 and March 2015, **53** young people and their families received a Service from Cluaran. Of the young people who have received support to date, **27** were girls and **26** were boys. During this period **twenty-four** young people completed programmes or left the Service. Of these, at the point of closure, **twenty** remained in the community (**83%**) (**twelve** remained at home (**60%**) **four** remained in local Residential Units (**20%**), **three** remained in a Foster Care Placement (**15%**) and one was placed in Supported Accommodation (**5%**). **Four** young people were placed out with Falkirk, **one** in a Residential School and **three** in a Residential Unit (**17%**).

Whilst individual programmes of support can vary significantly and can include a combination of Individual Support, Family Work, Group Work and Educational Support, there seems to be an increase in the number of young people receiving more comprehensive levels of support. The average monthly occupancy of the Service for the period under consideration was 29.

The average yearly cost of a placement at Cluaran, based on an average monthly occupancy of 29 for 2014/2015 was £26,142, Barnardo's contribution to this cost was £2,408 per placement with Falkirk contributing £23,734 per placement. (Although not like for like, these costs compare favourably to the cost of Residential School Placements used by Falkirk which are often in excess of £200,000 per year.)

**2** Specific outcomes for young people and their families receiving support from Cluaran, (other than those stated above), are detailed in section 4 below.

**3** The Service has a role in disseminating good practice and improving the outcomes for young people across Partner Agencies. With this in mind, the Service has played a significant role in a Pilot Programme devising and implementing an Outcome Framework, (based on Barnardo's Outcome Framework), for young people placed on the Child Protection Register. This has included Cluaran staff working alongside a range of professionals attending CP Core Groups and supporting them to devise Action Plans with a clear outcome focus.

This work has also been shared with the Locality Teams, Education Services and Fostering and Adoption groups and is being rolled out for all Looked After children.

In partnership with other agencies and building on the success of the Cluaran Referral Group, the Service has developed the Specialist Services Request Group, (a single point referral group for young people needing additional support).

The Service also participates in a range of groups within Falkirk aimed at developing good practice and improving outcomes for young people. These include Practitioners' Forums; Learning and Development Steering Group and Forth Valley Child Sexual Exploitation Project Board.

#### 4 Specific Outcomes for young people and Families

	Improvement	Maintained Same Level	Deterioration
<b>Healthy</b>			
1.2.01 Enhanced parent, carer or adult-child relationships	1	6	1
1.2.02 Improved parent or carer confidence, resilience or health	1	4	0
1.2.04 Increased resilience	3	17	2
1.2.05 Increased confidence	3	7	0
1.2.14 Improved Parenting	0	1	0
1.2.19 Improved self esteem	7	15	0
<b>Safe</b>			
2.1.08 Reduction in level of risk/harm	2	2	0
2.1.13 Reduced association with risky peers/adults	1	3	0
2.3.02 Able to solve conflicts constructively	1	4	0
<b>Nurtured</b>			
4.1.04 Positive, improved family relationships	1	10	2
4.1.07 Family has access to support	1	1	0
4.1.10 Improved family routines	0	3	0
4.1.16 Stable Family Placement	0	2	0
<b>Achieving</b>			
5.2.01 Satisfactory school or college attendance	4	3	0
5.2.02 Positive student attitude towards learning	8	12	2
5.2.03 Remain in or return to mainstream education	7	7	2
5.2.04 Improved behaviour in school	4	4	1
5.2.06 Access to alternative education	0	1	0
5.3.01 Satisfactory progress in learning/developmental goals	5	5	1
5.3.02 Satisfactory Academic Performance	1	0	0
<b>Active</b>			
6.1.01 Social skills gained/improved	2	4	1
6.1.04 Positive Socialisation with Peers	8	2	0
<b>Responsible</b>			
8.1.03 Reduction in anti-social behaviour	0	2	0
8.3.06 Assume age appropriate responsibilities	0	1	1

#### Summary of Key Issues/ Challenges Facing Organisation

There has been no increase in grant funding from Falkirk Council for the past three years. However the Service is still managing to meet demand, respond to need and capacity has remained the same. By realigning Services and creating efficiencies in Management Structures, including the co-location of two Services, the Service has effectively managed a reduction in income. Being a Key Partner in establishing and co-ordinating the SSRG, was in direct response to the development of Education Services Mariner Support Service and the IFSS and to ensure that Cluaran is still relevant and meeting the needs of its Services Users.

#### How has Organisation Contributed to Council/ Service Priorities

The Service is aligned to the Council's goals of:

- Continuing to improve the health, safety and well-being of our citizens and communities
- Tackle disadvantage and discrimination in all of its forms

In terms of the Children and Families Service Plan goals:

- To support children in need.

In terms of Education Services' priorities:

- Increasing our efforts to tackle disadvantage and discrimination
- Track, monitor and intervene to support vulnerable groups, especially Looked After Children

#### List any Areas where there has been Shortfall in Performance

None.

#### How often are Review Meetings held with Lead Officer

Six monthly.

### **C FINANCIAL / RISK ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW**

FC funding, in £s and also as % of organisation's income, (Financial & In- Kind Contributions) provided in past three years, and £s FC funding committed to next two years

Falkirk Council contributed £361,619 in cash terms for the period 2014-15 which comprised £327,329 in grant funding and £34,290 towards the costs of a Barnardo's employee. In addition Falkirk Council also contributed £326,670 in kind to meet the costs of three Social Work staff and five Teachers.

The total Falkirk Council contribution to Cluaran in 2014-15 was £688,289 made up of £361,619 from Social Work and £326,670 from Education Services.

#### Last Period of Submitted Audited Accounts

2014-15

#### Future Risks (Financial, Operational or Structural) Faced by Organisation

A standstill budget over the past three years and prior to the two years consecutive reduction in budget by 3% has resulted in increasing pressure on the Service which has threatened to impact on the level of Service Delivery. To date, this has been managed through restructuring and management efficiency. In the longer term however, a standstill budget or imposed cuts of 15% will impact on Service Delivery to children and young people.

#### Overall Risk Rating (Low/Medium/High)

**Overall risk – Medium, due to pressures to save additional 15% over next 3 years.**

**D CONCLUSIONS**

Summary/ opinion of organisations overall progress carried forward from last report, and also during this year

The service has continued to perform well throughout the year and effects a spend to save in terms of reducing the costs associated with the placement of children in external resources. The service continues to contribute to a wide range of strategic and developmental forums and has made a significant contribution to child protection as the result of the assistance provided relating to the roll out of the outcomes Framework.

**E COMPLETED BY**

<u>Name</u>	David Mackay/ Matt Davies
<u>Designation</u>	Children's Services Manager
<u>Date</u>	21 09 15