

**FALKIRK COUNCIL**

**Subject: FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC POUND: SERVICES TO EARLY YEARS CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE (FPP) - 2013/2014 MONITORING REPORT**

**Meeting: SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**Date: 31 OCTOBER 2014**

**Author: DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WORK SERVICES  
ACTING JOINT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION SERVICES**

**1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to update Members on the work of the external organisations who receive funding and who provide services to early years, children and young people and who fall within the Following the Public Pound reporting and monitoring arrangements. The reporting period is April 2013 to March 2014. It should be noted that organisations were previously reported by service, however, in order to provide Members with strategic context, organisations will now be reported by category as outlined to Members during April's Scrutiny Committee.
- 1.2. External organisations are often voluntary or charitable organisations who have been provided with funding on the basis that they are able to provide services which could not readily be provided within the council, services are however provided in a way that compliments those provided by the council and other statutory partners.

**2. SERVICES TO CHILDREN & FAMILIES STRATEGIC CONTEXT**

- 2.1. In Falkirk there are a number of factors which impact on the demand for services to early years, children & young people and their families.
- 2.2. **Rising Population**

Falkirk has a growing population which, according of the preliminary results of the 2011 census, is now 156,000 making Falkirk the 11<sup>th</sup> largest council in Scotland. The population has grown by over 10,000 since the last census in 2001 or 7.4% compared to the national increase across Scotland of 4.6%. The annual birth rate in Falkirk between 2002 and 2012 was, on average, 7.1% above the national rate. While the overall under 18 population has been pretty static over this period we are now seeing rising numbers of under 11's as the increasing birth rate throughout the 2000's begins to impact. The growth of this infant population, when combined with other pressures within communities, is likely impact directly on demand for services for the most vulnerable children.

In/...

In 2012/2013 relative child poverty in Scotland increased by 4% points compared with 2011/2012 (poverty and income equality in Scotland 2012/2013). For households and employment reduced entitlement to tax credits has contributed to a fall in household incomes for those with lower earning who are unable to increase the number of hours worked. At April 2013 there was a 26% decrease in the number of children in households in Scotland in receipt of work tax credits compared with April 2012. This will have broadened vulnerability to the stresses that poverty brings to family life beyond the more traditional deprived areas and groups. In Falkirk the Scottish Welfare Fund spending increased from £6,144 in April 2013 to £109,991 in March 2014. Referrals to Falkirk foodbanks have increased year on year since their inception in 2011. In 2011/2012 1,861 young people 18 and under accessed the foodbank. This rose to 4,572 young people in 2012/2013 and a staggering 22,387 in 2013/2014 of the above, 321 young people were referred by Social Work in 2014.

Of the 24,000 children in schools and nurseries in Falkirk 13% have additional support needs which require to be provided for and managed through specialist staff from a variety of agencies.

### **2.3. Increase in Vulnerability**

The factors outlined above, when considered alongside other factors such as substance use and mental health difficulties amongst the adult population, result in higher levels of vulnerability within the population of early years children & young people. The council's approach to preventative services has been strong and this has mitigated against the increases in numbers of children looked after and accommodated and children on the Child Protection Register being as high as has been experienced in other parts of Scotland. However, in the last year, there has been a significant increase in the numbers of children who require to be accommodated by the council for their own care and protection and trends are now closer to the national average.

At the end of July 2014 247 children were looked after away from home, 124 children were looked after at home and 85 children were on the child protection register.

In the light of the above it is all the more important that the Council is able to maintain a focus of prevention, much of which is achieved through partnerships with the third sector, as outlined later in this report.

### **2.4. Policy Context – National - GIRFEC**

National policy is delivered in the context of Getting It Right For Every Child (GIRFEC). The GIRFEC approach requires every child and young person to have a named person who will be the first point of contact if a child or young person's wellbeing is of concern. The requirement of a named person is now enshrined in law under the Children & Young People Act (Scotland)(2014). The GIRFEC approach is intended to ensure that children get the right help at the right time and their lives. The approach consists of ten core components which are:

- A focus on improving outcomes for children & young people and their families based on a shared understanding of wellbeing.
- A common approach to gaining consent and sharing information when appropriate.

- An integral role for children, young people and families in assessment planning and intervention.
- A coordinated and identified approach to identifying concerns, assessing needs, agreeing actions and outcomes based on the wellbeing indicators
- Streamlining planning assessment and decision making processes that lead to the right help at the right time.
- Consistent high standards of cooperation, joint working and communication where more than one agency needs to be involved.
- A lead professional to coordinate, monitor inter agency activity where necessary.
- Maximising the skilled workforce within universal services to address needs and risks at the earliest possible time.
- A confident and competent workforce across all services for children, young people and their families.
- A capacity to share demographic assessment and planning information electronically within and across agency boundaries.

## 2.5 Policy Context National – Early Years Framework

In addition for children aged 0-8 years, the Early Years Framework, published in 2008, set out 10 overlapping elements that need to come together to improve outcomes for early years. These elements are:

- A cohesive approach;
- Helping children, families and communities to secure outcomes for themselves;
- Breaking cycles of poverty, inequality and poor outcomes in and through early years;
- A focus on engagement and empowerment of children, families and communities;
- Using the strength of universal services to deliver prevention and early intervention;
- Putting quality at the heart of service delivery;
- Services that meet the needs of children and families;
- Improving outcomes and children's quality of life through play;
- Simplifying and streamlining delivery
- More effective collaborations.

## 2.6 Policy Context National – Early Years Collaborative

The objective of the Early Years Collaborative (EYC) is to accelerate the high level principles set out in GIRFEC and the Early Years Framework into practical action. It is designed to make Scotland the best place in the world to grow up by improving outcomes and reducing inequalities, for all babies, children, mothers, fathers and families across Scotland to ensure that all children have the best start in life and are ready to succeed. To do this the EYC has five stretch aims:

- To ensure that women experience positive pregnancies which result in the birth of more healthy babies as evidenced by a 15% reduction in stillbirths and infant mortality.
- 85% of all children within each community planning partnership area will have reached all of the expected developmental milestones at the time of the child's 27-30 month health review by end-2016

- 90% of all children in each community planning partnership area will have reached all of the expected developmental milestones and learning outcomes by the time the child starts primary school, by end-2017.
- 90% of all children in each community planning partnership area will have reached all of the expected developmental milestones and learning outcomes by end of Primary 4 by end-2021.

## 2.7 Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014

The Act received its Royal Assent in March 2014 and covers a variety of areas relating to the wellbeing of children and young people. The legislation comes into force incrementally over the next two years. Some of the key areas covered are:

- From August 2014 increase the amount and flexibility of free Early Learning and Childcare from 475 to a minimum of 600 hours per year for 3 and 4 year olds, and 15% of Scotland's most vulnerable 2 year olds. From August 2015 this will extend to 27% of the most vulnerable 2 year olds;
- Provide Free School Lunches to all children in primary 1–3 by January 2015;
- Ensure better permanence planning for looked after children by giving all 16 year olds in care the right to stay in care until the age of 21 from 2015; extend the support available to young people leaving care for longer (up to the age of 26), and support the parenting role of kinship carers;
- Enshrine elements of the *Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC)* approach in law, ensuring there is a single planning approach for children who need additional support from services, providing a single point of contact for every child and providing a holistic understanding of wellbeing;
- Create new duties in relation to the UNCRC and strengthen the Children's Commissioner role; and
- Strengthen existing legislation that affects children, including a number of amendments to the process for school closure proposals under the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010

## 2.8 Policy Context Local

At a local level our Single Outcome Agreement has as one of its aims supporting children in early years so that they become young people who are confident and successful. Falkirk's Children's Commission oversee the planning and delivery of Children's Services and in doing so report directly to the Community Planning Leadership Group. The Integrated Children's Service Plan sets out the collective ambition of the Community Planning Partnership to achieve the vision that every child and young person should have an enjoyable, fulfilling life in a nurturing healthy and safe environment. The Integrated Children's Service Plan sets out ways in which services will work together in order to achieve this vision for Falkirk's children. Services provided by the independent sector significant partners in the delivery of the Integrated Children's Service plan.

All services and agencies are working locally to ensure that we meet the requirements of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act. Local tests of change are also contributing to achieving the stretch aims of the EYC.

### 3. OVERVIEW OF FUNDED ORGANISATIONS WHICH CONTRIBUTE TO THE INTEGRATED CHILDREN'S SERVICE PLAN

- 3.1. The table below shows the external organisations that received council funding during 2013/2014 either in kind or by direct financial support in order to enable them to contribute to the council's goal of increasing our efforts to tackle disadvantage and discrimination.

<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>Funding</b>
<b>Aberlour Childcare Trust</b> Family Support Service - Langlees	£225,012
<b>Aberlour Childcare Trust</b> Early years Outreach	£315,162
<b>Barnardo's</b> Axis Service	£110,952
<b>Barnardos</b> Bo'ness Family and Support Service	£314,605
<b>Barnardo's</b> Cluaran Service	£327,329 Grant Funding £ 33,950 Direct Funding £321,540 In kind staff support  <b>£628,819</b> Total
<b>Barnardo's</b> New Beginnings	£192,341
<b>Home Start</b>	£29,488
<b>NHS Forth Valley</b> CAMHS Clinical Psychologist for Looked After Children	£73,264
<b>NHS Forth Valley</b> Speech & Language Therapy	£515,040
<b>One Parent Families Scotland</b> Braes Family Centre	£136,064
<b>Quarriers Scotland</b> Falkirk Children's Rights Service	£86,200
<b>Sacro</b> Restorative Justice Service	£81,296
<b>Signpost Recovery</b> Time 4 Us	£30,000
<b>Who Cares? Scotland</b> Children's Rights Service	£27,970
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£2,820,213.00</b>

#### **4. ASSESSMENT OF INDIVIDUAL ORGANISATIONS PERFORMANCE**

- 4.1. An individual report is attached for all of the external organisations shown above. Each report provides an overview of the service provided, the agreed objectives or outcomes, performance information during the reporting period and a financial overview. It should be noted that not all of the audited accounts for 2013/2014 are available as yet. This is largely due to the timing of the annual general meetings of each organisation.
- 4.2. As part of the assessment process external organisations are allocated a risk rating based on governance arrangements, financial management and past performance. The ratings are low, medium or high and provide monitoring officers with an indication of the minimum level of monitoring and support which should be established. External organisations deemed as low risk are monitored at least annually, medium risk or external organisations should be monitored at least quarterly and high risk at least monthly. Monitoring is recommended to take the form of regular reports which measure performance against outcomes and/or objectives and provide financial monitoring information. Monitoring officers are also required to hold meetings with the external organisation throughout the year.

#### **5. CONCLUSION**

- 5.1. As set out within the report to this committee on 13 June 2013, Members are invited to consider each organisations report and select from the following options for each external organisation;
- a) Approve report and acknowledged progress by the external organisation in meeting council priorities
  - b) Request further information on specific aspects of the service provided.
  - c) Request action with follow-up for subsequent Scrutiny Committee consideration.

#### **6. RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Members are asked to;**

- **Consider individual reports for external organisations and select an option from those presented at 5.1.**

.....  
**Margaret Anderson**  
**Director of Social Work Services**  
**15 October 2014**  
**Contact: 4035**

.....  
**Gary Greenhorn**  
**Acting Director of Education Services**  
**15 October 2014**  
**Contact: 6683**

<p align="center"><b>FALKIRK COUNCIL EDUCATION SERVICES</b>  <b>FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC POUND ANNUAL REPORTING STATEMENT</b>  <b>2013/14</b></p>
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Organisation Name	Aberlour Childcare Trust
Project	Early Years Outreach
Agreement Dates	2013-2014 <sup>1</sup>
Name of Lead Officer	Eileen Hutton
<b>A OVERALL ORGANISATION AIMS</b>	
<u>Summary of Key Aims &amp; Objectives</u>	
<p>In taking account GIRFEC well-being indicators for children and young people, the Service will:</p> <p><b>SAFE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reduce risk and levels of harm to children and young people</li> <li>▪ Increase and/or strengthen protective factors</li> <li>▪ Improve healthy relationships</li> <li>▪ Increase access to positive role models</li> </ul> <p><b>HEALTHY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Improve physical health</li> <li>▪ Improve mental health and well being</li> <li>▪ Increase access to appropriate health and dental care advice.</li> </ul> <p><b>ACTIVE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Involve children in regular constructive activity</li> <li>▪ Increase confidence in children &amp; parents' own ability</li> <li>▪ Promote positive self-esteem of children &amp; parents</li> <li>▪ Promote participation in social &amp; community activities</li> <li>▪ Provide experiences focusing on play, contact with peers &amp; social interaction</li> </ul> <p><b>NURTURED</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Improve relationships with family (carers)</li> <li>▪ Reduce risk of family breakdown</li> <li>▪ Improve relationship with, and accepting of services</li> <li>▪ Parents/Carers demonstrate understanding of the needs of their child(ren)</li> </ul> <p><b>ACHIEVING</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Foster communication skills and abilities</li> <li>▪ Create an environment that is interesting and empowers children to learn that will allow children to meet their developmental milestones</li> <li>▪ Improve children &amp; families quality of life</li> </ul> <p><b>RESPECTED</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Actively involve families in plans and decisions</li> <li>▪ Ensure families are listened to and heard</li> <li>▪ Communicate with others at a level which is understandable</li> <li>▪ Pursue relevant and appropriate input and feedback from families and partner agencies</li> </ul> <p><b>RESPONSIBLE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Enable children &amp; parents to take part in planning</li> <li>▪ Encourage families to have positive networks</li> <li>▪ Support families in allowing them to distinguish acceptable and unacceptable behaviour</li> </ul>	

<p><b>INCLUDED</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Encourage participation in community activities and services</li> <li>▪ Reduce barriers to inclusion</li> <li>▪ Understand cultural background and kinship</li> <li>▪ Foster a sense of belonging for families and promote their ability to plan for the future</li> </ul> <p>The Service will also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Raise awareness of the service to the community</li> <li>• Liaise with other relevant statutory &amp; voluntary services</li> <li>• Collate client feedback and questionnaires and assess this information to identify needs</li> <li>• Evaluate the service offered and assess this information to identify needs</li> <li>• Manage and develop the service in line with the Quantified Objectives against the Performance Standards and Performance Indicators</li> </ul>
<p><u>List of Agreed Outcomes</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 62 parents' understanding of meeting their developmental needs of their children will increase. 78 children's development will be enhanced.</li> <li>• 48 parents' understanding of meeting their developmental needs of their children will increase. 48 children's development will be enhanced.</li> <li>• 96 babies and their parents will have improved attachment. Parents' well-being will be enhanced and have a direct impact on the well-being of their baby.</li> <li>• 16 parents' will have improved self-esteem, enhanced mental health &amp; well-being. This will have a direct benefit on the well-being of their children.</li> <li>• 30 parents' confidence and knowledge of how to manage children's behaviour, will increase. This will include enhancing minimum of 30 children's emotional well-being.</li> </ul>	
<p><u>Why Service/Project is Funded Externally Rather than by the Council</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aberlour Childcare Trust has the expertise and staff skills to provide the support and advice required to meet the needs of children and families referred to CLASP</li> </ul>	
<p><b>B ACTUAL PERFORMANCE vs. OBJECTIVES / AGREED OUTCOMES</b></p>	
<p><u>Summary of Key Achievements</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support for parents by provision of group work and work with individual families</li> <li>• Provision of programmes to reduce the impact of parental health on families</li> </ul>	
<p><u>Summary of Key Issues/ Challenges Facing Organisation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manager on Secondment</li> </ul>	
<p><u>How has Organisation Contributed to Council/ Service Priorities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parental engagement in children's learning</li> <li>• Tracking, Monitoring and Intervention with vulnerable groups.</li> </ul>	
<p><u>List any Areas where there has been Shortfall in Performance</u></p>	



- n/a

How often are Review Meetings held with Lead Officer

- As required but at least twice in the year

**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

Funding 12/13 - £ 315,162

Funding 13/14 - £ 315,162

Funding 14/15 - £ 315,162

Last Period of Submitted Audited Accounts

- Year ending 31 March 2013

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

N/A

Overall Risk Rating (Low/Medium/High)

Low

**D CONCLUSIONS**

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

- Continued provision of an efficient and effective service which meets the need of families for whom support is provided.

**E COMPLETED BY**

Name

Eileen Hutton

Designation

Childcare Provision Co-ordinator

Date

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>FALKIRK COUNCIL EDUCATION SERVICES</b>  <b>FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC POUND ANNUAL REPORTING STATEMENT</b>  <b>2013/14</b></p>
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Organisation Name	Aberlour Childcare Trust
Project	Family Support Centre - Langlees
Agreement Dates	2013-2014
Name of Lead Officer	Eileen Hutton
<b>A OVERALL ORGANISATION AIMS</b>	
<u>Summary of Key Aims &amp; Objectives</u>	
In taking account GIRFEC well-being indicators for children and young people, the Service will:	
<b>SAFE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reduce risk and levels of harm to children and young people</li> <li>▪ Increase and/or strengthen protective factors</li> <li>▪ Improve healthy relationships</li> <li>▪ Increase access to positive role models</li> </ul>
<b>HEALTHY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Improve physical health</li> <li>▪ Improve mental health and well being</li> <li>▪ Increase access to appropriate health and dental care advice.</li> </ul>
<b>ACTIVE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Involve children in regular constructive activity</li> <li>▪ Increase confidence in children &amp; parents' own ability</li> <li>▪ Promote positive self-esteem of children &amp; parents</li> <li>▪ Promote participation in social &amp; community activities</li> <li>▪ Provide experiences focusing on play, contact with peers &amp; social interaction</li> </ul>
<b>NUTRURED</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Improve relationships with family (carers)</li> <li>▪ Reduce risk of family breakdown</li> <li>▪ Improve relationship with, and accepting of services</li> <li>▪ Parents/Carers demonstrate understanding of the needs of their child(ren)</li> </ul>
<b>ACHIEVING</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Foster communication skills and abilities</li> <li>▪ Create an environment that is interesting and empowers children to learn that will</li> <li>▪ allow children to meet their developmental milestones</li> <li>▪ Improve children &amp; families quality of life</li> </ul>
<b>RESPECTED</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Actively involve families in plans and decisions</li> <li>▪ Ensure families are listened to and heard</li> <li>▪ Communicate with others at a level which is understandable</li> <li>▪ Pursue relevant and appropriate input and feedback from families and</li> </ul>

partner agencies	
<b>RESPONSIBLE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Enable children &amp; parents to take part in planning</li> <li>▪ Encourage families to have positive networks</li> <li>▪ Support families in allowing them to distinguish acceptable and unacceptable behaviour</li> </ul>
<b>INCLUDED</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Encourage participation in community activities and services</li> <li>▪ Reduce barriers to inclusion</li> <li>▪ Understand cultural background and kinship</li> <li>▪ Foster a sense of belonging for families and promote their ability to plan for the future</li> </ul>
<u>List of Agreed Outcomes</u>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 42 children will reach their developmental potential</li> <li>• 20 parents' understanding of meeting their developmental needs of their children will increase. 20 children's development will be enhanced</li> <li>• 24 babies and their parents will have improved attachment. Parents' well-being will be enhanced and have a direct impact on the well-being of their baby.</li> <li>• 12 babies will have a healthy attachment with their parents.</li> <li>• 12 parents' will have improved self-esteem, enhanced mental health &amp; well-being</li> <li>• 14 parents' confidence and knowledge of how to manage children's behaviour, will increase. This will include enhancing children's emotional well-being.</li> <li>• 10 young people's emotional well-being will improve. They will be more able to describe their feelings and respond appropriately in potentially challenging situations.</li> </ul>	
<u>Why Service/Project is Funded Externally Rather than by the Council</u>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aberlour Childcare Trust has the expertise and staff skills to provide the support and advice required to meet the needs of children and families at the Family Centre.</li> </ul>	
<b>B</b>	<b>ACTUAL PERFORMANCE vs. OBJECTIVES / AGREED OUTCOMES</b>
<u>Summary of Key Achievements</u>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weekly Childcare &amp; Education group sessions for 18 months – 2 year old</li> <li>• Weekly stay and play sessions for parents and children</li> <li>• Individual parenting support provision.</li> </ul>	
<u>Summary of Key Issues/ Challenges Facing Organisation</u>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manager currently seconded</li> </ul>	
<u>How has Organisation Contributed to Council/ Service Priorities</u>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parental engagement in children's learning</li> <li>• Tracking and monitoring of vulnerable groups</li> </ul>	
<u>List any Areas where there has been Shortfall in Performance</u>	

- n/a

How often are Review Meetings held with Lead Officer

- As required but at least twice in the year

**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

Funding 12/13 - £225,012

Funding 13/14 - £225,012

Funding 14/15 - £225,012

Last Period of Submitted Audited Accounts

- Year ending 31 March 2013

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

N/A

Overall Risk Rating (Low/Medium/High)

Low

**D CONCLUSIONS**

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

- This service has provided a supportive service to local children and families through individual and groupwork.

**E COMPLETED BY**

Name

Eileen Hutton

Designation

Childcare Provision Co-ordinator

Date

<p align="center"><b>FALKIRK COUNCIL SOCIAL WORK SERVICES</b>  <b>FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC POUND ANNUAL REPORTING STATEMENT</b>  <b>2013/14</b></p>
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Organisation Name	Barnardo's
Project	AXIS Service
Agreement Dates	2013/2014
Name of Lead Officer	Matthew Davies, Service Manager, Children and Families Services

## **A OVERALL ORGANISATION AIMS**

### Summary of Key Aims & Objectives

The Axis Service aims to reduce the risk and harm to young people, families and communities in the Falkirk area by providing support to young people up to the age of 19 who are experiencing a range of difficulties related to alcohol or substance misuse. The provided interventions include a Core Service, (medium to long term support for young people experiencing significant difficulties), and an Early Doors service, (an early intervention service consisting of approximately six to eight focused individual sessions, advice/information and group work sessions focusing on awareness raising).

### List of Agreed Outcomes

Progress is monitored via the Forth Valley outcomes framework and through the Barnardo's outcomes framework. The Barnardo's outcomes framework focuses on a range of desired outcomes based on SHANARRI indicators and tracks progress made over a sequence of reviews. Each young person has an agreed set of outcomes based around need which determines the focus of support. The level of need is given a scoring between 1 to 5 based on the level of need with 5 being the greatest level of need or concern, and 1 being a measure that the need has been met.

The Service aims to provide support to 15 to 18 young people at any one time through Early Doors and 10 to 12 young people at any one time through the Core Service. The service also aims to provide awareness raising sessions to young people and community groups (target of 200 referrals).

Axis also provides support to young people in relation to employability and training opportunities.

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

Axis has developed significant expertise relating to working with vulnerable Young People with problematic substance misuse issues. The service shares its management structure with Cluaran Barnardos Service and consequently receives some funding from Barnardos.

**B ACTUAL PERFORMANCE vs. OBJECTIVES / AGREED OUTCOMES**Summary of Key Achievements

**Core Service:** During the period 01.04.2013 to 31.03.2014 twenty seven young people received a programme of support from the service. Fourteen young people have had outcomes measures set and have had more than one set of outcomes recorded. A number of young people were at the early stages of engagement with initial outcomes about to be set. Two young people closed early in the period in question and had no outcomes recorded during this time frame and there was difficulty with engaging two young people. (It should be noted that the outcomes shown below include ongoing work with young people where often, arresting increasing risk and maintaining stability can be considered progress.)

**Outcomes achieved through the Core Service.**

<b>HEALTHY</b>	Young People Showing Improvement	Young People maintaining Same Level	Young people showing a Deterioration
1.1.01 Receives necessary health care.	1	2	0
1.2.01 improved parent/carer/adult child relationship	2	0	0
1.2.13 improved mental health and well being	5	2	0
1.2.19 Improved self esteem	2	1	0
1.3.02 knowledge of sexual health strategies	5	8	1
1.5.01 reduced/safer consumption of drugs/solvents.	6	5	1
1.5.04 Increased knowledge of alcohol/drug misuse, (effects and risks).	1	2	0
<b>SAFE</b>			
2.1.08 reduction in level of risk/self harm	6	4	4
<b>NURTURED</b>			
4.1.15 Access to information on housing, health, benefits, rights or support needs.	2	0	0
<b>ACHIEVING</b>			
5.2.01 satisfactory school/college attendance	0	1	0
<b>ACTIVE</b>			
6.1.04 Positive socialisation with peers.	3	2	0
6.1.05 increase Choice of Activities/opportunities.	1	1	0
<b>RESPONSIBLE</b>			
8.1.03 Reduction in anti-social behaviour	1	1	0
<b>INCLUDED</b>			
9.1.02 Access to employment, education or training (on leaving school).	5	2	1

**Outcomes for Young people receiving an early doors service.**

During the period 01.04.2013 to 31.03.2014 78 individual young people received a service from Early Doors. Of these young people- 34 received information and advice only, 24 have completed full programmes, 13 are currently engaged in programmes, or at the early stages of assessment and 7 remain on maintenance monitoring. 21 young people refused contact with the service and 1 young person was signposted. (It should be noted that for those young people participating in the Early Doors programmes outcomes are set at the beginning and the end of the programme). Young people at the very early stages of their programme will not be included in the outcome reporting. It should also be noted that given that the Early Doors programme is early intervention, the range of desired outcomes is not as extensive as the core service.

In addition 71 young people, at risk of harm, received group work intervention at: Cyrenians employability training; the Dawson centre in Langlees; the Mariner Centre twice; 2 transition classes at Graeme High. The outcomes intended were to reduce risk of harm/ consumption and increase knowledge.

**Outcomes achieved through the Early Doors programme.**

<b>HEALTHY</b>	Young People Showing Improvement	Young People maintaining Same Level	Young people showing a Deterioration
1.2.01. enhanced parent/carer/adult child relationship.	1	0	0
1.5.01 reduced/safer consumption of drugs/solvents.	13	3	1
1.5.04 Increased knowledge of alcohol/drug misuse, (effects and risks).	11	5	1
1.5.05 Improved parental knowledge of alcohol/drug risks	1	0	0
<b>SAFE</b>			
2.1.08 reduction in level of risk/self harm	13	3	1
<b>RESPONSIBLE</b>			
8.1.03 Reduction in anti-social behaviour	4	0	0
<b>INCLUDED</b>			
9.1.02 Access to employment, education or training (on leaving school).	1	0	0

**Employability support:**

Of the nine young people receiving support in this area, the majority have shown progress either in relation to engagement with education, employment/training or have shown an improvement in their attitude or employment readiness (case id 1 shows a negative change but in fact the young person found a training placement within a fortnight of outcomes being scored and would then have scored 1-needs met). This progress has usually come about as a result of greater stability in their lives due to a reduced/safer consumption of controlled substances and a reduction in the level of risk or harm. At this stage, as well as helping them maintain stability, as part of their recovery the service then provide support to engage with other services aimed at employment or training.

Case Id	Outcome	First score	Last score	Change
1	1.5.01 Reduced/safer consumption of controlled substances	2	2	0
	1.5.04 Knowledge of alcohol/drug misuse risks	1	1	0
	2.1.08 Reduction in level of risk/harm	2	1	1
	9.1.02 Access to employment, education or training	2	3	-1
2	1.5.01 Reduced/safer consumption of controlled substances	2	2	0
	1.5.04 Knowledge of alcohol/drug misuse risks	1	1	0
	2.1.08 Reduction in level of risk/harm	2	2	0
	9.1.02 Access to employment, education or training	4	2	2
3	1.5.01 Reduced/safer consumption of controlled substances	2	1	1
	1.5.04 Knowledge of alcohol/drug misuse risks	2	1	1
	2.1.08 Reduction in level of risk/harm	3	1	2
	9.1.02 Access to employment, education or training	4	2	2
4	1.3.02 Knowledge of sexual health strategies	4	1	3
	1.5.01 Reduced/safer consumption of controlled substances	4	3	1
	1.5.04 Knowledge of alcohol/drug misuse risks	2	1	1
	2.1.08 Reduction in level of risk/harm	4	2	2
	6.1.04 Positive socialisation with peers	4	3	1
	9.1.02 Access to employment, education or training	3	3	0
5	1.2.13 Improved mental health & well-being	4	3	1
	1.3.02 Knowledge of sexual health strategies	4	1	3
	1.5.01 Reduced/safer consumption of controlled substances	4	2	2
	1.5.04 Knowledge of alcohol/drug misuse risks	3	1	2
	2.1.08 Reduction in level of risk/harm	4	2	2
	4.1.15 Access to information on housing, health, benefits, rights or support needs	4	3	1
	9.1.02 Access to employment, education or training	4	2	2
6	1.1.01 Receives necessary health care	3	2	1
	1.2.13 Improved mental health & well-being	5	3	2
	1.5.01 Reduced/safer consumption of controlled substances	5	3	2
	2.1.08 Reduction in level of risk/harm	5	3	2
	4.1.15 Access to information on housing, health, benefits, rights or support needs	4	1	3
	6.1.04 Positive socialisation with peers	4	3	1
	8.1.03 Reduction in anti-social behaviour	3	2	1
	9.1.02 Access to employment, education or training	4	2	2
7	1.2.01 Enhanced parent/carer/adult - child relationships	4	2	2
	1.2.13 Improved mental health & well-being	3	2	1



## APPENDIX 1

	1.5.01 Reduced/safer consumption of controlled substances	4	1	3
	1.5.04 Knowledge of alcohol/drug misuse risks	3	1	2
	2.1.08 Reduction in level of risk/harm	4	1	3
	6.1.04 Positive socialisation with peers	4	2	2
	6.1.05 Increased choice of activities/opportunities	5	1	4
	9.1.02 Access to employment, education or training	4	2	2
8	1.2.13 Improved mental health & well-being	4	4	0
	1.5.01 Reduced/safer consumption of controlled substances	3	3	0
	2.1.08 Reduction in level of risk/harm	4	3	1
	6.1.04 Positive socialisation with peers	5	3	2
	9.1.02 Access to employment, education or training	3	3	0
9	1.5.01 Reduced/safer consumption of controlled substances	2	2	0
	1.5.04 Knowledge of alcohol/drug misuse risks	2	2	0
	2.1.08 Reduction in level of risk/harm	3	3	0
	9.1.02 Access to employment, education or training	4	2	2

\* It should be noted that Axis focuses on Education at various levels through groupwork and awareness raising inputs for all young people completing programmes. In Early Doors and Core, the service will contact service users three months after closure to ensure progress has been sustained. Should there be a relapse, then the Service offers to re-engage with the young person. This part of the service is called Maintenance Monitoring. Young people at this stage are not included in measurement of service capacity.

In addition to providing programmes of support to individuals, the service has a remit to raise awareness of alcohol and drug related issues to local community groups. The information below highlights some of Axis's work in this area:

Axis had stalls at a Health Fair and the LGBT History Month evening event at Forth Valley College Falkirk campus giving out information and a harm reduction message alongside raising awareness of what we do.

Axis had a stall at the Carrongrange High School senior pupils and families event highlighting what we do, engaging with young people and staff.

Axis had a stall at the Larbert High school all day event for all pupils in December 2013, which was a good opportunity to remind pupils and staff about Axis and keep them up to date regarding alcohol and drug issues.

Axis continues to develop links with Grangemouth High, providing 2 senior classes with Axis harm reduction groupwork sessions in October 2013. They are a big referral source at the moment particularly regarding cannabis misuse. Axis are supporting their application to become the chosen school for the Social Influencing Project including alcohol and drugs issues.

Axis has been able to link up with the Falkirk Police who have agreed to provide Axis information relating to young people arrested and in police cells. Signpost Recovery have agreed to formalise links with Axis to ensure their arrest referral service signposts young people to Axis appropriately.

Routinely Axis attends Falkirk Council CLD events as part of their summer programme in Airth, Larbert, Camelon, Tamfourhill etc.

Axis has recently taken a lead in helping educate and support Council services regarding the recent increase in young people's use of "legal highs" or New Psychoactive Substances which are causing concerns. Axis has worked with the Throughcare/ aftercare service; IFSS; Wallace Crescent and is due to provide an input at Tremanna and to the Community wardens. Axis is also active in working alongside other concerned services in Forth Valley aiming to find an effective way to tackle this issue.

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

The Axis service is funded on a year to year basis. This impacts upon long term planning and staff recruitment and retention. 2 year consecutive 3% reduction in funding followed by standstill budget in 2013/2014 have resulted in a review of the management and support functions within the service. Continued budget cuts or indeed a stand still budget will impact upon service delivery.

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

The service forms part of the tiered approach to substance misuse service delivery and is represented at Falkirk's Alcohol and Drug Partnership. The service sits on the Early Ineffective Intervention Resource Allocation Group and delivers services to children and young people coming to the attention of that group as a result of substance related offending behaviour. The service is aligned to the Falkirk Council's goals of "Continuing to improve the Health, Safety and wellbeing of our citizens and communities".

The service delivers interventions which are consistent with the Children and Families Social Work goals of providing support to "Children in Need", "dealing with youth offending and anti-social behaviour", and "providing support for children and young people affected by drug or alcohol misuse".

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

None.

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

6 monthly.

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

#### Total Support Provided (Financial & In- Kind Contributions)

110,952

Last Period of Submitted Audited Accounts

2014

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

See attached financial risk assessment.

Overall Risk Rating (Low/Medium/High)

See above

**D CONCLUSIONS**Summary/ Opinion of Organisations Overall Progress During Year

The Axis service continues to perform well and in line with it's service specification. The service is able to provide detailed outcomes information in relation to individual service users using its developed Outcomes Framework. These demonstrate positive outcomes for the majority of its service users.

**E COMPLETED BY**Name

Matthew Davies

Designation

Service Manager, Children and Families Services

Date9<sup>th</sup> September 2014

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>FALKIRK COUNCIL EDUCATION SERVICES</b>  <b>FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC POUND ANNUAL REPORTING STATEMENT</b>  <b>2013/14</b></p>
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Organisation Name	Barnardo's
Project	Bo'ness Family and Support Centre
Agreement Dates	2013-2014
Name of Lead Officer	Eileen Hutton

## **A OVERALL ORGANISATION AIMS**

### Summary of Key Aims & Objectives

- Working in partnership with schools and other agencies to work within inter-agency plans to support children and young people to maintain their place in mainstream education and achieve better outcomes through individual, family and group work support
  - Ensure parents/carers and families have appropriate support to overcome any barriers to the provision of a secure and stable family life promoting the healthy development and wellbeing of their children
  - Ensure that children and young people have the opportunity to make use a range of out of school activities to promote their overall wellbeing and development
  - Share responsibility for promoting strong partnership working at all times for the benefit of Children, Young People and Families
- To manage and develop the service in line with the Quantified Objectives against the Performance Standards and Performance Indicators

### List of Agreed Outcomes

- Working in partnership with schools and other agencies, BEFSS will work within interagency plans to support children and young people to maintain their place in mainstream education and achieve better outcomes through individual, family and group work support.
- Ensure parents/carers and families have appropriate support to overcome any barriers to the provision of a secure and stable family life promoting the healthy development and wellbeing of their children
- Ensure that children and young people have the opportunity to make use of a range of out of school activities to promote their overall wellbeing and development
- Share responsibility for promoting strong partnership working at all times for the benefit of Children, Young People and Families

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

- The service provided by Barnardo's reflects the many years of experience and the particular knowledge and skills which can be used to support vulnerable children.

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

### Summary of Key Achievements

- Provision of nurture group to primary school children in Bo'ness and Falkirk
- Intensive support for children and families
- Transition work from children moving from primary to secondary

### Summary of Key Issues/ Challenges Facing Organisation

- Further development of work within Graeme High Cluster Schools

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

- Parental engagement in children and young people's learning.
- Tracking, monitoring and intervention with vulnerable groups.

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

- n/a

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

- As required but at least twice in the year

## **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

Funding 12/13 - £314,605

Funding 13/14 - £314,605

Funding 14/15 - £314,605

### Last Period of Submitted Audited Accounts

- Year ending 31 March 2013

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

N/A

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

Low

## **D CONCLUSIONS**

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

- Bo'ness Education and Family Support Service continues to provide support for vulnerable children and families within Bo'ness. The service continues to undertake similar support for families in the Graeme High school Cluster.

## **E COMPLETED BY**

Name

Eileen Hutton

Designation

Childcare Provision Co-ordinator

Date

<p align="center"><b>FALKIRK COUNCIL SOCIAL WORK SERVICES</b>  <b>FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC POUND ANNUAL REPORTING STATEMENT</b>  <b>2013/14</b></p>
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Organisation Name	Barnardo's
Project	Cluaran Service
Agreement Dates	2014-15
Name of Lead Officer	Matthew Davies, Service Manager Andrew Facherty, Additional Support for Learning Manager

## **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. Its aim is to reduce the number of young people referred to the Service being subsequently placed in a Residential School settings outside 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 skills and abilities 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 Chairing and Coordinating the Voluntary Sector Children's Services Forum, membership of the Children's Commission and Child Protection Committee.

### **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 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 identifying 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>B</b>	<b>ACTUAL PERFORMANCE vs. OBJECTIVES / AGREED OUTCOMES</b>
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<b>Summary of Key Achievements</b>
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1. Between April 2013 and March 2014 the Service has provided support to **sixty one** young people and their families. Of these, **33** have completed Programmes and are now closed to the Service. The remaining **28** young people continue to receive support.

Of those **33** who have completed programmes **29**, (88%) remained in the community, (18 remained at home with their families (62%); 2 remained with foster carers (7%); and 8 were maintained in local Residential Units and continued to attend local schools (28%); one young person was placed in Supported Accommodation (3%)). **Three** of the remaining **4** young people, (9%), were placed in Residential Schools out with Falkirk. and **one** young person was placed in a Secure Unit (3%)

(Individual programmes of support can vary significantly and are dependent on need but could include a combination of Individual Support, Family Work, Group Work and Educational Support. The average yearly cost of a placement at Cluaran, based on an average monthly occupancy of 31 for 2013-14 was £24,855 Barnardo's contribution to this cost was £2,735 per placement with Falkirk contributing £22,120 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. As described above 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 Child Protection 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. (A version of the Outcome Framework is currently being used by the Locality Teams).

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 Chairing and Coordinating the Voluntary Sector Children's Services Forum, membership of the Children's Commission, Child Protection Committee and the Multi-agency Continuous Improvement Group.



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

**Diagram One:** Outcomes for the 61 Young people and Families receiving support from the Service between. April 2013 and 15 March 2014

<b>Outcome</b>	<b>No of YP/Families Showing Improvement</b>	<b>No of YP/Families Maintaining Same Level</b>	<b>No of YP/Families Showing a Deterioration</b>
<b>HEALTHY</b>			
Enhanced parent/carer/adult - child relationships	1	3	0
Improved parent/carer confidence/resilience/health	4	2	0
Improved knowledge of parenting/caring	1	0	0
Increased resilience	11	6	0
Increased confidence	2	3	0
Improved family communication	0	2	0
Improved self esteem	5	6	0
Improved parenting	1	1	0
<b>SAFE</b>			
Reduction in level of risk/harm	0	2	2
Reduced association with risky peers/adults	4	3	0
Able to solve conflicts constructively	3	5	0
<b>NURTURED</b>			
Reduction in family conflict	0	1	0
Positive/improved family relationships	3	6	0
Improved family routines	3	0	1
Prevent admission to care	0	1	0
Return child to home	1	0	0
<b>ACHIEVING</b>			
Satisfactory school/college attendance	7	5	2
Positive student attitude towards learning	7	7	0
Remain in/return to mainstream education	2	6	2
Improved behaviour in school	2	2	2
Access to alternative educational provision	1	0	1
Satisfactory progress in learning/developmental goals	4	6	1
Sustained progress on exit from service	0	2	0
<b>ACTIVE</b>			
Social skills gained/improved	0	3	1
Positive Socialisation with Peers	2	4	0
<b>RESPONSIBLE</b>			
Assume age appropriate responsibilities	3	2	0

Summary of Key Issues and Challenges Facing Organisation

There has been no increase in grant funding from Falkirk Council for the past 3 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 Service users.

How has Organisation Contributed to Council and Service Priorities

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

- Continuing to improve the health, safety and wellbeing 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

6 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 £361,279 in cash terms for 2013-14 which comprises £327,329 in grant funding and £33,950 towards the costs of a Barnardo's employee. In addition Falkirk Council also contributed £321,540 in kind comprising the costs of 3 Social Work staff (£107,890) and 5 teachers (£213,650).

The total Falkirk Council contribution to Cluaran in 2013-14 was £682,819 made up of £469,139 from Social Work and £213,650 from Education Services

Last Period of Submitted Audited Accounts

2012-13

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

A standstill budget over past 3 years and prior to that 2 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 will impact on service delivery to children and young people.

Overall Risk Rating (Low/Medium/High)

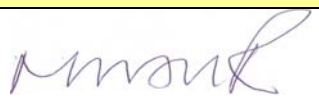
Find attached Financial Risk assessment

**D CONCLUSIONS**

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

Cluaran continues to deliver relevant and effective services to children in need. The service excels at partnership working and positively influenced practice in a wide range of service delivery areas including Child Protection and services for Looked After children. The development of a Specialist Service Request Group and Cluaran's participation in this ensures that referrals are targeted appropriately and that the services relationship and interface with other agencies is clearly defined.

**E COMPLETED BY**

<u>Name</u>	Matthew Davies Andrew Facherty	 <b>Andrew Facherty</b>
<u>Designation</u>	Service Manager, Children and Families Services Additional Support for Learning Manager, Education Services	
<u>Date</u>	27 August 2014	

**FALKIRK COUNCIL SOCIAL WORK SERVICES  
FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC POUND ANNUAL REPORTING STATEMENT  
2013/14**

Organisation Name	CAMHS, NHS Forth Valley
Project	Clinical Psychologist, Looked After Children
Agreement Dates	January 2014- January 2016
Name of Lead Officer	Kathy McCarroll

**A OVERALL ORGANISATION AIMS**

Summary of Key Aims & Objectives

To provide a specialist clinical psychology assessment and therapy service for:-

- Children and young people who are looked after by Falkirk Council, either at home or away from home, and who are the responsibility of Falkirk Council, even when living outwith the area.
- Children and young people residing in the Falkirk Council area whose family placement is at high risk of breakdown, leading to them becoming accommodated whether or not they are at that point looked after by the Local Authority.

List of Agreed Outcomes

- To provide highly specialist psychological assessment and therapy to the above noted specific group of children.
- To provide advice, consultation, support and training to social workers and other professionals working with looked after children and young people, including foster carers, residential staff and voluntary agencies, where appropriate.
- To contribute to care planning for children and young people who are the responsibility of Falkirk Council by way of the provision of specialist advice to Falkirk social work staff.
- To participate in multi-agency planning forums, e.g. Health of Looked After Children meetings and Corporate Parenting Agenda.
- To facilitate access to CAMH services when appropriate.

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

This post is a partnership arrangement with CAMHS NHS Forth Valley which means that the post holder is employed by NHS Forth Valley. This arrangement ensures that the post holder has access to the required level of professional support and clinical governance which the Social Work Service would be unable to provide.

The establishment of this post reflects the recognition that looked after children often have key mental health needs that may not meet the criteria for a service from CAMHS. Looked after children often experience difficulty in engaging with formal mental health services and there can be differing criteria and variability in access to mental health provision for children who are placed out with the Falkirk Council area.

The establishment of this post also reflected a commitment to improving the awareness of and skills in working with mental health issues amongst foster carers, residential workers and social workers, thereby enhancing their capacity to maintain young people in local placements.

There is now a trainee Psychologist also in post on a 2 day per week basis from September 2013. This is fully funded by the NHS and only possible because the current post holder is able to provide the necessary supervision. The trainee has been able to increase provision, and has completed psychological interventions with approximately 8 children and has also completed a number of cognitive and neuropsychological assessments. This placement has been extended for another year to work with the current post holder to develop a training package around "complex trauma and attachment issues with looked after children placements". This again will be funded by the NHS. NHS have also provided a one day a week assistant Psychologist who will focus on neuropsychological assessment.

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

### Summary of Key Achievements

#### Core Activity-direct clinical care

Over the last year, 79% of the post holder's time has been spent on direct clinical care/core tasks. This includes:-

- Direct patient contact (40%)
- Clinical meetings
- Complex case discussion
- Report writing
- Scoring clinical tests
- Correspondence
- Records
- Providing reports for Court cases in permanence cases (this is a more prominent feature than last year relating to the higher number of young children going forward for permanency)

During the period 2014/2015, there has been contact with 88 young people and current ongoing involvement, at varying levels of intensity, for direct work with 52 young people. 27 young people have been seen on a multi-consultation basis including their foster carers/adoptive carers/parents or staff. Nine neuropsychological assessments have also been completed.

LAC Psychology involvement in one case resulted in the young person being admitted to a specialist NHS resource funded wholly by NHS. The alternative would have been secure accommodation arranged and funded by Falkirk Council.

This was a substantial saving to the Council over a 2 year period of approximately £200,000.

The neuropsychological assessment service for looked after children whose cognitive abilities are in question is crucial. Without such assessments, access to learning disability services becomes extremely difficult or impossible. This is largely a school and education issue, however these assessments are not taking place in that forum. Filling this gap is absolutely essential for future planning for Falkirk's looked after population. Within the last year, a number of young people have been diagnosed with a learning disability as a result of these assessments. These young people are now eligible for learning disabilities support services.

### **Strategic Engagement/Commitment**

- Strategic Parenting Group (monthly)
- HOLAC (health of looked after children) (quarterly)
- Corporate Parenting Operational Response Group
- CAMHS Liaison

### **Service Development**

- Input to foster carer support groups- bi-monthly.
- Consultations with social workers/foster carers/residential staff x2 per week.
- Training input (child development/attachment/loss) to Family support staff and others- 6 sessions.

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

- The service is currently funded on a temporary basis with the agreement being renewed every 2 years. This impacts on long term planning and has implications for the young people currently engaged with the service.
- Issues arise in relation to, for example, multiple young people in the same placement being referred to the service and the challenges this brings in relation to respecting their confidentiality.
- There is an increasing demand for input from the LAC clinical psychologist.
- The administrative tasks associated with the role are increasing.

How has Organisation Contributed to Council/ Service Priorities

- Continuing to improve the health, safety and wellbeing of our citizens and communities (SOA).
- Increasing our efforts to tackle disadvantage and discrimination (SOA).
- Improving health and wellbeing (ICSP/GIRFEC).
- Young people are safe and their wellbeing is paramount (SW Service Plan, SW Performance Outcome Framework).

List any Areas where there has been Shortfall in Performance

N/A

How often are Review Meetings held with Lead Officer

This service has been reviewed at regular intervals, with the most recent review having taken place on 17 December 2013. A further review was due to take place in June 2014. The delay has been attributed to staff changes in CAMHS and a further review has now been arranged since the appointment of a new Head of Service for CAMHS.

The Team Manager of the Intensive Family Support Service oversees allocation of workload on a monthly basis.

**C FINANCIAL / RISK ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW**

Total Support Provided (Financial & In- Kind Contributions)

£64,264 for Clinical Psychologist office accommodation and equipment  
£9,000 for admin support

Last Period of Submitted Audited Accounts

N/A

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

Were this service to be discontinued, there are likely to be increased risks to the mental wellbeing of looked after young people for whom Falkirk Council has responsibility, with concomitant issues associated with unemployment, drug and alcohol misuse, offending and increased dependence on benefits and health agencies. Withdrawal of the service may increase the number of young people who require to be accommodated.

Overall Risk Rating (Low/Medium/High)

Low financial risk.

## **D CONCLUSIONS**

Summary/ Opinion of Organisations Overall Progress During Year

The development of the LAC Clinical Psychology post has enhanced the service provision to some of the most vulnerable children and young people of Falkirk. This improvement has been both in terms of direct work with young people and in terms of awareness and skills development with those delivering care and support to these young people.

The service is proving to be very effective in improving outcomes for children and young people as well as assisting with efficiency savings to avoid purchasing more expensive residential placements.

## **E COMPLETED BY**

Name

Kathy McCarroll

Designation

Head of Service (Children & Families and Criminal Justice)

Date

17 September 2014



<p style="text-align: center;"><b>FALKIRK COUNCIL EDUCATION SERVICES</b>  <b>FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC POUND ANNUAL REPORTING STATEMENT</b>  <b>2013/14</b></p>
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Organisation Name	Home Start
Project	Home-Start
Agreement Dates	2013-2014
Name of Lead Officer	Eileen Hutton

## **A OVERALL ORGANISATION AIMS**

### Summary of Key Aims & Objectives

- To offer support, friendship and practical assistance
- To visit families in their own homes, where the dignity and identity of each adult and child can be respected
- To develop a relationship with the family using a flexible approach to take account of different needs
- To reassure parents that difficulties in bringing up children are not unusual and encouraging them to enjoy family life
- To encourage parents' strengths and emotional well-being for the ultimate benefit of their children.
- To encourage families to widen their network of relationships and to use the support services within the community
- To manage and develop the service in line with the Quantified Objectives against the Performance Standards and Performance Indicators

### List of Agreed Outcomes

- 35 families will have been provided with support by 31 March 2014
- To provide this service via trained supported volunteers
- To actively participate in working with other agencies to the benefit of families

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

- The work of this service is undertaken by volunteers who are trained by Home-Start and have been verified by Home-Start's Quality Assurance Scheme.

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

### Summary of Key Achievements

- Home-start have provided the service to 35 families

### Summary of Key Issues/ Challenges Facing Organisation

- The group require to undertake fundraising to support their work

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

- The group have supported families and encouraged parental engagement in child's learning

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

- n/a

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

- As required but at least twice in the year

### **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

Funding 12/13 - £29,488

Funding 13/14 - £29,488

Funding 14/15 - £29,488

#### Last Period of Submitted Audited Accounts

- Year ending 31 March 2013

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

Limited reserves available to cover any ongoing losses

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

Medium

### **D CONCLUSIONS**

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

- Home-Start continues to offer support, friendship and practical assistance to individual families within their own home.

### **E COMPLETED BY**

Name

Eileen Hutton

<u>Designation</u>	Childcare Provision Co-ordinator
<u>Date</u>	

<p align="center"><b>FALKIRK COUNCIL : EDUCATION SERVICES</b>  <b>FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC POUND : ANNUAL REPORTING STATEMENT</b>  <b>2013-14</b></p>
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Organisation Name: Barnardo's	Project: New Beginnings
Name of Lead Officer: A Facherty	Current Agreement Dates: Apr 2012-Mar 2015

A: OVERALL ORGANISATION AIMS
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i. Summary of Key Aims & Objectives:

Working in partnership with Oxfam School and Outreach Service, the Oxfam Family Support Team provides a range of flexible support to children and their families who have been prioritised by the Oxfam Pupil Support Resources Group, due to being at risk of:

- exclusion from school or not achieving their potential within school arising from social, emotional and behavioural difficulties
- not accessing school-based learning due to out-of-school circumstances
- being placed in Out-Authority schools

ii. List of Agreed Outcomes:

The Oxfam Family Support Team aims to promote pupil well-being by keeping pupils:

- **safe** – reduce engagement in unsafe behaviour by promoting and developing positive alternatives
- **healthy** – analyse factors in the child's home and environment to identify health risks, and work with Oxfam, the child and family to minimise them
- **active** - increase the positive involvement of children in their communities, including play, community service and organised groups
- **nurtured** – increasing parent and carer skills in managing the child at home, building to developing their support for the child's learning, social and emotional development, including organisation and management
- **achieving** – increase the child's ability to learn within the classroom environment by reducing the barriers to learning
- **respected and responsible** – encourage the child to take responsibility for progress by facilitating the child's close involvement in the planning processes
- **included** – support the successful re-integration of children to their mainstream school by supporting the child as they practice newly-acquired skills in their local school environment

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

Barnardo's have significant experience in this area of support and an extensive network of support to assist the delivery of the service. In addition Barnardo's contribute to the cost of delivering the service.

<b>B: ACTUAL PERFORMANCE V's OBEJECTIVES / AGREED OUTCOMES</b>
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i. Summary of Key Achievements:

Barnardo's will:

- Ensure 100% of the children referred to Oxgang Family Support Team, with a signed agreement of the child's parents or carers, will receive a home-based assessment within 10 school days
- Use the specialist assessment generated to contribute to the multi-agency assessment (Integrated Assessment Framework Form 3) of the child's world
- Negotiate targets, methodologies and success criteria for the integrated plan (Integrated Assessment Framework Form 4)
- Generate data and reports to contribute to the reviews for the child (Integrated Assessment Framework Form 6)
- Reducing the assessed safety risk for at least 80% of the children referred to Oxgang Family Support Team
- Reducing the assessed health risks for 80% of the children referred to Oxgang Family Support Team
- Reducing the assessed activity risks for 80% of the children referred to Oxgang Family Support Team
- Reducing the assessed nurture risks for 80% of the children referred to Oxgang Family Support Team
- Increasing the assessed educational engagement and outcomes for 80% of the children referred to Oxgang Family Support Team
- Increasing the rating for respected and responsible for 80% of the children referred to Oxgang Family Support Team
- Increasing the rating for respected and responsible for 80% of the children referred to Oxgang Family Support Team

ii. Summary of Key Issues/ Challenges Facing Organisation:

- To continue to meet the needs of children who are experiencing difficulties in their homes, schools or communities and improve outcomes

iii. How has Organisation Contributed to Council/ Service Priorities:

- Improving the life skills and positive outcomes for our children
- Supporting the integration of children with challenges within our educational establishments

iv. List any Areas where there has been Shortfall in Performance:

- None

v. How often are Review Meetings held with Lead Officer:

- Regularly throughout the school term.

C: FINANCIAL / RISK ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW
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<p>i. <b><u>Total Support Provided (Financial &amp; In- Kind Contributions):</u></b></p>
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- |  |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• £192,341</li></ul> |
|--|

<p>ii. <b><u>Last Period of Submitted Audited Accounts:</u></b></p>
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- |   |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Barnardo's accounts for Year Ending 31 March 2014</li></ul> |
|---|

<p>iii. <b><u>Future Risks (Financial, Operational or Structural) Faced by Organisation:</u></b></p>
--

- |  |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Meeting the increased demands and challenges faced by children experiencing difficulties within our existing resources</li></ul> |
|--|

<p>iv. <b><u>Overall Risk Rating (Low/Medium/High):</u></b></p>
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- |   |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Low</li></ul> |
|---|

D: CONCLUSIONS
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<p>i. <b><u>Summary/ Opinion of Organisations Overall Progress During Year:</u></b></p>
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- |  |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Good work and progress has been made during the year working in partnership with Oxbang School and other Council staff in supporting children facing particular challenges to maintain their educational placement within Falkirk.</li></ul> |
|--|

E: COMPLETED BY
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<p><b><u>Lead Officer:</u></b> Andrew Facherty</p>
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<p><b><u>Date:</u></b> 29 September 2014</p>
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<p align="center"><b>FALKIRK COUNCIL EDUCATION SERVICES</b>  <b>FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC POUND ANNUAL REPORTING STATEMENT</b>  <b>2013/14</b></p>
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Organisation Name	One Parent Families Scotland
Project	Braes Children and Family Centre
Agreement Dates	2013-2014
Name of Lead Officer	Eileen Hutton

## **A OVERALL ORGANISATION AIMS**

### Summary of Key Aims & Objectives

- To enable and empower children and families to achieve their full potential
- To support and enable children and families to better enjoy family relationships and to develop strategies to cope with the stresses of family life
- To promote lifelong learning and training for parents in partnership with other voluntary and statutory agencies in the Falkirk area

### List of Agreed Outcomes

One Parent Families Scotland will:

- provide places for children aged 2 years who need additional support due to developmental difficulties or family problems;
- undertake group and individual work with parents and children aged 0 to 2 to promote positive parent / child interactions and healthy development;
- provide support to vulnerable children on an individual and group basis in nursery and primary schools in the Upper Braes area and in the Family Centre, including work with parents;
- Provide Summer and Easter activities for pre-school children

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

- One Parent Families Scotland are experienced in working with vulnerable families and children. Staff have the knowledge, skills and training to undertake the required work.

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

### Summary of Key Achievements

- Weekly provision of childcare and learning sessions for 2 year olds.
- Positive parenting sessions

### Summary of Key Issues/ Challenges Facing Organisation

- Need to provide all staff with opportunity to participate in the auto enrol pension scheme

How has Organisation Contributed to Council/ Service Priorities

- Parental engagement in children's learning
- Tracking, monitoring and intervention with vulnerable groups

List any Areas where there has been Shortfall in Performance

- n/a

How often are Review Meetings held with Lead Officer

- As required but at least twice in the year

**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

Funding 12/13 - £136,064

Funding 13/14 - £136,064

Funding 14/15 - £136,064

Last Period of Submitted Audited Accounts

- Year ending 31 March 2013

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

N/a

Overall Risk Rating (Low/Medium/High)

Low

**D CONCLUSIONS**

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

- The group continues to work in Maddiston and some upper Braes villages.

**E COMPLETED BY**

Name

Eileen Hutton



<u>Designation</u>	Childcare Provision Co-ordinator
<u>Date</u>	

<b>FALKIRK COUNCIL SOCIAL WORK SERVICES</b> <b>FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC POUND ANNUAL REPORTING STATEMENT</b> <b>2013/14</b>
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Organisation Name	Quarriers Scotland
Project	Quarriers Falkirk Children's Rights
Agreement Dates	2013/16
Name of Lead Officer	Vivien Thomson

## A OVERALL ORGANISATION AIMS

### Summary of Key Aims & Objectives

- To develop and deliver a comprehensive Children's Rights Service in the Falkirk area
- To promote, protect and uphold the rights of children and young people from birth to 19 years within the Falkirk area as stated within the UNCRC and Children (Scotland) Act 1995 and associated guidance
- To collate client feedback and questionnaires and assess this information to identify needs
- To develop a pool of volunteers to provide information / advocacy services to children and young people
- To develop and maintain a service profile and target marginalised children and young people
- To facilitate the "Have your say forum" for children and young people Looked After & Accommodated in line with Falkirk Councils Corporate Parenting Strategy

The Children's Rights Service is accessible to all children and young people normally resident within the Falkirk Council area.

### List of Agreed Outcomes

Provision of a service to children from Falkirk to ensure that their rights are upheld both individually and within policy developments

Evidence of addressing themes from across services which require attention in relation to children's rights.

Close work with Who Cares? to ensure that the rights of children who are looked after are maintained and upheld

Evidence of challenge to the Council and its partners where appropriate, where children's issues are not being properly upheld or developed.

Evidence of involvement in and initiation of developments within Children's Services.

Ensuring that key priorities in the ICSP are being taken forward and involve young people.

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

Quarriers is a voluntary organisation who have provided a service to adults and young people across Scotland with a particular emphasis and track record of involving service users in their work. The organisation also works at national level to influence policy. The council is required to consult with young people and provide independent advocacy. This service could not be provided within the Council as this could result in conflict with other legal obligations.

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

### Summary of Key Achievements

- Year on year increase in referrals to Falkirk Children's Rights Service
- The Children's Rights Service has been successful in highlighting children's rights to the services and agencies working within the Falkirk area and is enabling all children and young people to have their voices heard eg via corporate parenting events, individual advocacy and proactive advertising
- Quarriers Falkirk Children's Rights Service has successfully recruited four volunteers to provide Information/Advocacy to children and young people, and are now supporting a graduate trainee placement
- The Children's Rights Officer is co-facilitating the "Have your say" work, a key aspect of the Corporate Parenting Strategy.
- After successfully piloting drop-in surgeries within two High Schools, the Children's Rights Service has now successfully rolled this out to other schools
- The Children's Rights Officer regularly liaises with young people in Falkirk Council residential units and foster placements
- The Children's Rights Officer actively contributes to a number of strategic groups including the Corporate Parenting Action Group and the Children and Families Continuous Improvement Group, and reports, in conjunction with Who Cares? to the Children's Commission

### Summary of Key Issues/ Challenges Facing Organisation

The Falkirk Children's rights Service combines the Quarriers Children's Rights Service and the Who Cares Service for children who are looked after by the council. The challenges of establishing a consistent approach to this joint work have been significantly overcome over the past year, with new monitoring arrangement and greater cohesion within the services. Roles are more clearly outlined, and priorities jointly agreed to focus on the most vulnerable. The service has experienced difficulty in retaining its volunteers, but the focus on particular groups is hoped to give impetus to this, a key aspect of the contract to provide a wide and flexible service. The service is also vital in assisting the Council to develop our response to the Children and Young people (Scot) Act 2014. This includes undertaking important scoping work with young people to assist in establishing how the council can best and most flexibly respond to the new legislation allowing young people to remain in care until the age of 21 years; developing work on advocacy with Who Cares, and contributing to identifying gaps in services.

How has Organisation Contributed to Council/ Service Priorities

The service continues to work in partnership with the Who Cares? Service to ensure that young people, both accommodated and within the community, receive a robust children's rights service. The organisation ensures that the views of children and young people are fed into local and national consultations. This is a key priority of the Council's Corporate Parenting Strategy and action plan.

The service is also vital in assisting the Council to develop our response to the Children and Young people (Scot) Act 2014. This includes undertaking important scoping work with young people to assist in establishing how the council can best and most flexibly respond to the new legislation allowing young people to remain in care until the age of 21 years; developing work on advocacy with Who Cares, and contributing to identifying gaps in services. The Children and young people (Scot) Act 2014 also increases the corporate parenting duties on local authorities and public bodies and the Children's rights Service will be crucial in enabling Falkirk to meet those additional requirements.

List any Areas where there has been Shortfall in Performance

There continue to be difficulties in recruitment of volunteers. The service and council are actively working together in this area.

Concerns about a lack of activity and challenge from the CRO were addressed robustly by the organisation and steps taken to change personnel and approach. This has proved productive with a higher profile and greater activity resulting.

How often are Review Meetings held with Lead Officer

Joint Who Cares? and Quarriers monitoring meetings take place quarterly, with a Steering Group of key stakeholders which directs focus also meeting quarterly. The Service report twice yearly to the Children's Commission.

**C FINANCIAL / RISK ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW**Total Support Provided (Financial & In- Kind Contributions)

Quarriers are given £86,200per annum by the Council

Last Period of Submitted Audited Accounts

September 2013 – due September 2014.

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

None

Overall Risk Rating (Low/Medium/High)

Low

**D CONCLUSIONS**Summary/ Opinion of Organisations Overall Progress During Year

The service continues to meet a key priority in the Council's Corporate Parenting Action Plan. Feedback from services and young people and other groups is that the Children's Right Service is valued and assists young people to express their views. The CRO additionally is key to ensuring that service developments across the council, and particularly those related to the new legislations, take account of the rights and needs of children in Falkirk.

**E COMPLETED BY**NameVivien ThomsonDesignationService ManagerDate11<sup>h</sup> September 2014

**FALKIRK COUNCIL SOCIAL WORK SERVICES  
FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC POUND ANNUAL REPORTING STATEMENT  
2013/2014**

Organisation Name	<b>SACRO</b>
Project	<b>SACRO RESTORATIVE JUSTICE SERVICE</b>
Agreement Dates	<b>1 APRIL 2013 – 31 MARCH 2014</b>
Name of Lead Officer	<b>MATTHEW DAVIES Service Manager Children and Families</b>

**A OVERALL ORGANISATION AIMS**

Summary of Key Aims & Objectives

SACRO deliver Restorative Justice Services commissioned by Social Work and Corporate Services in relation to offending and anti-social behaviour by young people aged up to 16 years. The Service key aims are to provide victims of crime and anti-social behaviour with a voice and to enable the perpetrators of offences and anti-social behaviour the opportunity to say sorry to their victims and repair the damage they have done. SACRO has a vision for a safer Scotland through the constructive resolution of conflict by dealing with offending and its consequences. SACRO aims to promote a safe and cohesive community by reducing conflict and offending.

List of Agreed Outcomes

- To attend the Early and Effective Intervention Group on a fortnightly basis
- To work with 120 referrals per year
- To provide a diversion service to the Procurator Fiscal for 16 and 17 year olds
- To provide training in collaboration with Falkirk's Youth Justice Service to the Children's Hearing Panel Members
- To provide Restorative Services to high schools within the Falkirk Council area
- To organise and facilitate inter-generational events within the Falkirk Council area as identified
- To participate in the Internet Safety Initiative
- To participate in the roll out of Early and Effective Intervention and Whole Systems Approach
- To provide Intensive Support Services to children leaving secure and residential care
- To work in partnership with other agencies to reduce youth offending
- To provide an opportunity for victims of crime to have their voice heard

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

SACRO has developed significant expertise in restorative approaches and is seen throughout Scotland as an exemplar of this type of intervention. The service works with young people and their families outwith normal working hours as required. The Service provides a cost effective mechanism of delivering these services at times to suit young people who offend and their families, thereby ensuring that the intervention is not disruptive to their attendance at school etc.

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

### Summary of Key Achievements

SACRO have continued to deliver services to a high standard and maintain a good working relationship with agencies and professionals across the Falkirk area.

- During the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014 SACRO received 149 referrals involving 145 young people. The majority of referrals were received through the fortnightly meeting of the Early and Effective Intervention (EEI) group. The membership of this group consists of Social Work, Education, Barnardo's Axis, Central Scotland Fire and Rescue and Police. SACRO have maintained a referral route for the Children's Reporter Service to deal with Vulnerable Persons Reports that by pass the EEI and go direct to the Children's Reporter. The service has a capacity figure of 120 referrals. Referral numbers were slightly down on last year due to a reduction in referrals received during March. This was due to the uncertainty of the EEI continuing in its present state beyond 31<sup>st</sup> March.
- A new volunteer was recruited to the team during this period and was carrying her own caseload for 6 months.
- SACRO have co-delivered training with Falkirk's Youth Justice Service to the Children's Hearing Panel members.
- SACRO staff continue to be involved in delivering the Step Forward programme to school leavers in Falkirk High.
- A member of staff attends the national Generations Working Together meetings to keep informed of national trends.
- A member of staff is part of the internet safety team and has presented information sessions to young people on the subject.
- All staff have received Asset training and will be shadowing social workers in completion of the assessment. This will build in resilience to the EEI group.
- SACRO have played a key part in the introduction of the Whole Systems Approach and are represented on the Management Committee.
- SACRO provided a worker on secondment to Connect services for maternity leave cover. This worker underwent training on AIM and Savvy and worked with medium to high risk young offenders.
- SACRO also provided a worker on secondment to Connect services to take forward the WSA for 16 and 17 year olds. In both of these secondments, SACRO were able to backfill the youth justice posts from other SACRO services nationally.
- SACRO continue to provide an out of hours crisis standby service. the rota for this service has been extended to staff working in other SACRO services locally.
- SACRO staff regularly attend Team Around The Child meetings to share information on young people in line with GIRFEC principles.
- SACRO service manager attends the Community Safety Partnership Tasking Group to offer support to other partners in areas experiencing youth problems through anti social and offending behaviour.

### Summary of Key Issues/ Challenges Facing Organisation

- Short-term funding continues to impair long term planning for the Service
- The Youth Justice team have moved temporarily into premises at Grangemouth Enterprise Centre until the social work restructuring moves take place. Eventually the Connect and SACRO teams will be located in the same office. This will provide an opportunity to build on the experience gained by the secondments mentioned above and will provide resilience for both teams. Sacro have appointed a full time team leader to oversee the day to day operations of the service.

How has Organisation Contributed to Council/ Service Priorities

The Service has worked within the GIRFEC framework to facilitate improved connection between the victims and perpetrators of crime/anti-social behaviour. The Service has contributed to the reduction of offending and anti-social behaviour by young people in the Falkirk Council area.

The service delivery is therefore congruent with Falkirk Councils goals of “developing a thriving, sustainable and vibrant economy by continuing to improve the health, safety and wellbeing of our citizens and communities.” It also supports Falkirk Councils Social Work’s objective “to provide and commission support, care and protection services for the the people and communities of the Falkirk Council area.”

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**

Total Support Provided (Financial & In- Kind Contributions)

£81.296 from Social Work Service budget.  
£46.104 from Community Safety Fund (reported on separately.)

Last Period of Submitted Audited Accounts

2013/2014

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

A risk to Service delivery and staff retention as a result of the year to year funding arrangements for this Service.

Overall Risk Rating (Low/Medium/High)

Low



**D CONCLUSIONS**Summary/ Opinion of Organisations Overall Progress During Year

SACRO continues to deliver high quality services and are meeting the agreed outcomes and objectives detailed within the Joint Working Agreement. SACRO are responsive to the change resulting from the introduction of Early and Effective Intervention on Whole Systems Approaches and have on occasion demonstrated responsiveness by providing tailored services to individual young people according to identified need. In the view of the writer/monitoring officer SACRO provides good value service.

**E COMPLETED BY**Name

Matthew Davies

Designation

Service Manager

Date5<sup>th</sup> September 2014

**FALKIRK COUNCIL SOCIAL WORK SERVICES  
FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC POUND ANNUAL REPORTING STATEMENT  
2013/2014**

Organisation Name	<b>Signpost Recovery</b>
Project	<b>Time 4 Us</b>
Agreement Dates	<b>1 APRIL 2013 – 31 MARCH 2014</b>
Name of Lead Officer	<b>MATTHEW DAVIES</b>

**A OVERALL ORGANISATION AIMS**

Summary of Key Aims & Objectives

Time 4 Us aims to increase the capacity and resilience of families affected by substance misuse, improving parenting skills, family relationships and wellbeing.

Time 4 Us has been developed in line the Integrated Assessment Framework and with the Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC) principles guiding its work. The service aims to compliment statutory provision by offering a service which focuses on the family in its entirety.

List of Agreed Outcomes

The principle overarching objective for Time 4 Us is **to reduce the impact of substance misuse and provide a positive role model and interventions for children and families in Forth Valley so they can lead safe, achieving, secure and stable lives.**

- Parents experiencing substance misuse issues have improved parenting capacity, skills and understanding and are better able to meet the needs of their children:

*Indicator 1* Parents will have improved parental capacity and abilities

*Indicator 2* Families will stay together in the interest of the child whilst reducing statutory involvement

*Indicator 3* Parents will have increased motivation, confidence and feelings of self worth

- Children affected by parental substance misuse will have improved self-esteem, resilience and social functioning:

*Indicator 1* Children will show improved self-esteem and resilience

*Indicator 2* Children will have improved attendance, attainment and achievement in nursery/school/relevant groups.

*Indicator 3* Children will have improved wellbeing in accordance with SHANARRI (safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and included).

- Children and families affected by substance misuse will have improved family relationships and will be better able to make positive and healthy choices.

<i>Indicator 1</i>	Families will have improved family and social functioning
<i>Indicator 2</i>	Families will demonstrate improved structure, routines and boundaries.
<i>Indicator 3</i>	Families will have improved outcomes in accordance with the 'outcomes star'.

Time 4 Us interventions and activities for working with family issues can include:

- Addressing Substance Use.
- Improving parenting capacity and parental skills.
- Improving general and mental health issues.
- Maximising family income, budgeting.
- Advising on healthy diet and cooking.
- Reducing impact on the local community.
- Reducing debt and Housing advocacy and support.
- Appropriate communication with the relevant partners supporting individual families.

Time 4 Us interventions and activities for children can include:

- Activities that enable children to have a better understanding of their emotions and to verbalise these.
- Activities, contacts and structures that enable children to have fun and present as happier both physically and emotionally.
- Interventions to ensure children will have improved coping skills.
- The Children's Worker having a better understanding of each child's self esteem and educating parents on its importance.
- Work and routines to improve child engagement in activities within nursery/school settings.
- Appropriate communication with the relevant partners supporting individual children.

Recipients of the service include those who misuse substances to a level where parental capacity is severely affected, their children, their families and any other relevant carer in the life of the child, for example kinship carers.

The service operates from locations in Falkirk, Stirling and Clackmannanshire. The service also offer specialist advice to other Addiction Service providers and offer outreach where a need is identified, working in partnership accordingly.

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

Time 4 Us have development skills and expertise in this specialist area of service delivery. Time 4 Us are managed under the umbrella of Signpost Recovery which results in management and financial efficiencies in addition to skills sharing between the co-located services.

**B ACTUAL PERFORMANCE vs. OBJECTIVES / AGREED OUTCOMES**Summary of Key Achievements

In this reporting period there has been a significant effort in relation to securing additional funding. Time 4 Us had previously had grant support from the Lloyds TSB Partnership Drugs Initiative. This ended in March 2013. Key stakeholders were agreeable to Signpost meeting the shortfall in funding via their reserves whilst seeking to secure additional funding. Following a bid to the Big Lottery Fund Time 4 Us has secured 5 year funding worth almost £230,000. There are some new grant expectations the service need to comply with and therefore the service are making some changes to the project. For example how they monitor their impact in relation to equalities and how they engage with groups that are considered harder to reach. There will also be a requirement to look at how the service gather outcomes information and data so that it can provide the necessary grant monitoring reports.

The first payment from the Big Lottery Fund was received in July 2014. This funding stream has provided significant publicity for the project.

Signpost Recovery accounts from 12-13 determined that there would be a contribution from their reserves. The Board of Signpost Recovery and the key stakeholders, agreed to Signpost funding an additional Children & Families Worker to increase capacity and to reduce waiting times. This additional post has been operational since September 13 and has had a major impact on service outcomes.

During the period from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014 Time 4 Us have received 91 referrals from Falkirk comprising of 66 referrals for adult support/family work and 20 referrals for children requiring support.

Referrals for Falkirk families were received from:

- Signpost Recovery 38
- Falkirk Children & Families Social Work 21
- Falkirk Criminal Justice Social Work 4
- Falkirk Addiction Recovery Service 2
- Addiction Support & Counselling 5
- Braes Families Centre 1
- Self-Referral 15
- Community Alcohol and Drugs Service 4
- Public Health Nurse 3

In the reporting period 2012-2014 the service have had the highest ever number of service users within both Signpost Recovery and Time 4 Us. This has had a significant impact on workloads. Provision has increased within Time 4 Us thanks to the additional Children & Families Worker. Staff attendance levels are excellent within both services with no issues to report.

### Summary of Key Issues/ Challenges Facing Organisation

In the last year the Signpost Recovery has been subject to organisational change, resulting from an internal review of processes. The organisation has been looking at its structure in relation to managing the various operational functions.

The Service has been working with partners to prepare a multi-agency audit of child protection. The service is also currently training staff and partners in a pilot to introduce an Impact of Parental Substance Misuse (IPSM) assessment. Initially, this will focus on the Bannockburn area, however if successful this is something the service will roll out Forth Valley wide.

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

The services aims are congruent with Falkirk Council's goal of "Continuing to improve the Health, Safety and Wellbeing of our citizens and Communities". The Service is also aligned with the Social Work, Children and Families aim of "providing support to children in need" and "providing support to children and young people affected by drug or alcohol misuse.

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

None

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

6 monthly

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

### Total Support Provided (Financial & In- Kind Contributions)

Total funding provided by FC for Time 4 Us was £45000 for the year 2013-14.

£30K from Social Work Services

£15K from Corporate and Neighbourhood Services

### Last Period of Submitted Audited Accounts

2013/2014

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

Find attached financial Risk Assessment.

Overall Risk Rating (Low/Medium/High)

Find attached.

## **D CONCLUSIONS**

Summary/ Opinion of Organisations Overall Progress During Year

- Time 4 Us continue to deliver a valuable service to children and families affected by parental substance misuse.
- The location and management of the service from within Signpost Recovery ensures effective delivery, management support and skills/information sharing.

## **E COMPLETED BY**

Name

Matthew Davies

Designation

Service Manager, Children and Families Services

Date

18<sup>th</sup> September 2014

**FALKIRK COUNCIL**

**Financial Analysis**

Please complete all highlighted fields.

<b>Company Accounts Information</b>				Prepared by <b>Derek Scott</b>	
Company Name	<b>Signpost Recovery</b>	Private limited by guarantee without share capital			
Companies House Register Number	<b>SC329966</b>	Country Registered in	<b>Scotland</b>		
Period Covered by Accounts	<b>31st March 2014</b>				
Are the Accounts signed?	<b>No</b>	By Whom		Date	
Note 1					
Do the accounts have an unqualified audit report	Yes/No/NA	<b>Yes</b>	Auditors	<b>Tindell, Grant &amp; Co</b>	
Note 2					

<b>Key Financial Information</b>		<i>Enter all figures as positives</i>		
		Year 1 2013 £	Year 2 2012 £	
Fixed Asset Total		<b>10,935</b>	<b>14,580</b>	
Current Asset Total		<b>902,432</b>	<b>801,991</b>	
Stock value included in Current Assets		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	
Current Liabilities Total		<b>303,570</b>	<b>272,057</b>	
Long Term Liabilities Total		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	
Reserves		<b>609,797</b>	<b>544,514</b>	
Share Capital		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	Year 1 Balance Sheet Balances Year 2 Balance Sheet Balances Incoming Resources
Turnover		<b>983,450</b>	<b>993,265</b>	
Operating profit	<i>Enter loss as negative</i>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	
Profit before tax	<i>Enter loss as negative</i>	<b>65,283</b>	<b>156,869</b>	
Profit After Tax	<i>Enter loss as negative</i>	<b>65,283</b>	<b>156,869</b>	

<b>Ratios - these ratios will automatically generate if key financial information is input above.</b>					
Explanations of the ratios are found in the notes	Year1	Result	Year 2	Result	
<b>Current Ratio</b>	2.97	ok	2.95	ok	Note 3
<b>Acid Test Ratio</b>	2.97	ok	2.95	ok	Note 4
<b>Return on Assets (after tax)</b>	11%	ok	29%	ok	Note 5
<b>Net Profit %</b>	7%	ok	16%	ok	Note 6
<b>Debt- Equity Ratio</b>	0.50	ok	0.50	ok	Note 7
<b>Non- Equity Claims to Assets Ratio</b>	0.33	ok	0.33	ok	Note 8

<b>Other information and notes - include any significant year on year variances and explanations if available</b>	
Sales have increased by 33.5% and pre-tax profits have increased by 135.8% compared to the previous trading period. The company cash balance has increased significantly over the last few years. The audit report contained no adverse comments.	
<b>CONCLUSION</b>	
The company credit rating has increased from 87 to 96 which indicates very good creditworthiness. Its financial position appears to be in good shape with healthy Current Ratio and Acid test ratio being reported.	

<p align="center"><b>FALKIRK COUNCIL : EDUCATION SERVICES</b>  <b>FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC POUND : ANNUAL REPORTING STATEMENT</b>  <b>2013-14</b></p>
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Organisation Name: National Health Service Forth Valley	Project: Speech and Language Therapy
Name of Lead Officer: A Facherty	Current Agreement Dates: Apr 2014-Mar 2017

A: OVERALL ORGANISATION AIMS
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i. Summary of Key Aims and Objectives:

The Service Level Agreement between Falkirk Council Education Services and the National Health Service Forth Valley ensures that the additional support needs of children in Falkirk's nurseries, primary, secondary and special schools are met using quality-assured, professional support, and that the linguistic needs of children in deprived areas are targeted through community support

ii. List of Agreed Outcomes:

**Aims for Children and Young People**

The overall aim is to enable young people to fulfil their potential and communicate to the best of their ability. The Speech and Language Therapy Team aims to:

- provide comprehensive assessment and diagnosis of voice, speech, language, communication, eating and drinking disorders for children with complex and enduring additional support needs
- meet complex and enduring language and communication needs in early years and educational settings
- advise the Team Around the Child on methods and resources that can support progress in meeting additional support needs arising from voice, speech, language, communication, eating and drinking difficulties
- improve outcomes for all children and young people in the Getting It Right For Every Child areas of safe, nurtured, healthy, achieving, active, respected, responsible and included

**Other Aims**

The Speech and Language Therapy Service also aims to:

- support the Falkirk Council Education Services Additional Support for Learning Team in providing Continuing Professional Development for its staff
- work alongside Education Services and other agencies in the Early Years Collaborative

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

This service amalgamates the Falkirk Council Education Services additional support needs work on language and communication with the efforts of Forth Valley National Health Service to tackle similar issues



B: ACTUAL PERFORMANCE V's OBEJECTIVES / AGREED OUTCOMES
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- Summary of Key Achievements:

NHS FV Speech and Language Therapy will:

- At least 95% of the children accepted by the Speech and Language Therapy Team, with a signed agreement of the child's parents or carers, will receive an offer of an assessment within 18 weeks
- Use the specialist assessment generated to contribute to the multi-agency assessment (IAF Form 3 *My World Triangle Assessment*) of the child's world
- Negotiate targets, methodologies and success criteria for the integrated plan (IAF Form 4 *Child or Young Person's Plan*)
- Generate data and reports to contribute to the reviews for the child (IAF Form 6 *Record of Child or Young Person's Meeting*)
- The Speech and Language Therapy Service has and uses robust criteria allowing the selection of different levels of targeted support
- 100% of staff, parents and carers will receive detailed advice and guidance within 18 weeks
- For children with understanding options and expressing choices identified as a target, an improvement in the ability of the young person to:
  - recognise choices offered
  - generate further options
  - make a decision
- Child can participate in, and contribute to, their chosen activities
- Places where children live, play and learn are communication friendly
- Parents report greater confidence in:
  - their understanding of their child
  - how to cope with problems presented
  - their part in overcoming difficulties
- Assessment reports on children's language include as appropriate:
  - attention and listening
  - receptive language
  - social interaction
  - expressive language
  - speech
- Promote strategies, practical techniques and protocols to address identified difficulties within the Child's plan, with recommendations for the Team Around the Child
- Work with children shows thorough and up-to-date grounding in the professional practice of Speech and Language Therapy
- An analysis of outcomes, with results informing improvement suggestions for subsequent planning
- Child or young person is able to communicate their targets and give an opinion about their communication needs
- Present data to Education Services Management Team and to the Additional Support for Learning Team on how schools and nurseries develop communication skills, and plan to address any significant shortcomings
- The good practice of speech and language therapists in longer-term school allocations is reflected in the planning and delivery activities of teachers and Support for Learning Assistants
- Offer professional training courses for Education Services staff in Speech and Language

Therapy and related topics. Up to 15 courses per year for staff and schools groups, and specialist support in team-building and partnership working for schools in the Focusing on Communication and Learning project

Summary of Key Issues/ Challenges Facing Organisation:

- To continue to meet the needs of children who are experiencing communication difficulties in their homes, schools or communities and improve outcomes

How has Organisation Contributed to Council/ Service Priorities:

The service provided by Forth Valley National Health Service via this agreement contributes towards the goals of Falkirk Council's Corporate Plan:

- further developing a thriving, sustainable and vibrant economy
- continuing to improve the health, safety and well-being of our citizens and communities
- increasing our efforts to tackle disadvantage and discrimination

List any Areas where there has been Shortfall in Performance:

- None

How often are Review Meetings held with Lead Officer:

- Regularly throughout the school term.

**Speech and Language Therapy Output and Outcome Measures, Apr-Jun 2014**

		Y	N	Target	Actual	Met?	Satisfactory	Ongoing	Not satisfactory	%age Satisfactory or Ongoing
One Child, One Plan	Assessment within 18 wks	96	0	95 %	100.0 %	Y	-	-		
	Contributed to My World	62	0	95 %	100.0 %	Y	-	-		
	Offered targets and Methods	257	0	95 %	100.0 %	Y	-	-		
	Contribute to Reviews	206	2	95 %	99.0%	Y	-	-		
Safe	Eating and Drinking	15	0	-	100.0 %	-	6	8	0	100.0 %
Healthy	Choice making Targeted?	49	1	-	98.0%	-	24	15	1	97.5%
Active	Personal and social targets?	92	1	-	98.9%	-	40	45	3	96.6%
Nurtured	Focus on home?	97	0	-	100.0 %	-	43	50	6	93.9%
Achieving	Assessment Results Delivered	187	1	-	99.5%	-	114	149	8	97.5%
	Involved in planning?	248	10	-	96.1%	-				
	Intervention by Therapist	222	2	-	99.1%	-				
	Intervention by TAC Member	261	11	-	96.0%	-				
Responsibility	Self-Expression Targeted?	26	3	-	89.7%	-	17	8	1	96.2%

-

C: FINANCIAL / RISK ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW
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<p>i. <b><u>Total Support Provided (Financial and In-Kind Contributions):</u></b></p>
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- |  |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• £515,040</li></ul> |
|--|

<p>ii. <b><u>Last Period of Submitted Audited Accounts:</u></b></p>
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- |   |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Year Ending 31 March 2014</li></ul> |
|---|

<p>iii. <b><u>Future Risks (Financial, Operational or Structural) Faced by Organisation:</u></b></p>
--

- |  |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Meeting the increased demands and challenges faced by children experiencing difficulties within our existing resources</li></ul> |
|--|

<p>iv. <b><u>Overall Risk Rating (Low/Medium/High):</u></b></p>
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- |   |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Low</li></ul> |
|---|

D: CONCLUSIONS
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<p>i. <b><u>Summary/ Opinion of Organisations Overall Progress During Year:</u></b></p>
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- |  |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Good work and progress has been made during the year working in partnership with schools</li></ul> |
|--|

E: COMPLETED BY
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<p><b><u>Lead Officer:</u></b> Andrew Facherty</p>
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<p><b><u>Date:</u></b> 29 September 2014</p>
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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>FALKIRK COUNCIL SOCIAL WORK SERVICES</b>  <b>FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC POUND ANNUAL REPORTING STATEMENT</b>  <b>2012/13</b></p>
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Organisation Name	Who Cares? Scotland
Project	Children's Rights Service
Agreement Dates	2013/16
Name of Lead Officer	Vivien Thomson

## A OVERALL ORGANISATION AIMS

### Summary of Key Aims & Objectives

The Aims of the service provided by Who Cares? Scotland are as follows:

- To deliver an effective Independent advocacy, advice and support service to children and young people who are looked after away from home.
- To liaise with other relevant service providers and particularly to work alongside the Falkirk CRO
- To collate client feedback and assess this information to identify needs.
- To protect children and young people defined as “in need” who are vulnerable.
- To enable children/young people who need a stronger voice to have their views listened to and actioned where appropriate.
- To enable children and young people to be involved in contributing to decisions about their personal care plan.
- To challenge discriminatory views.
- To support children and young people in ways that improve their confidence.
- To act in the child/young person's best interests.
- To act as an intermediary between children/young people and Council services.
- To consult with children and young people about the services they receive.
- To involve children and young people in the wider work of Who Cares? Scotland to ensure Falkirk's young people are represented nationally.

### List of Agreed Outcomes

Regular monitoring meetings with Falkirk Council, Quarriers and Who Cares? Scotland ensures that work undertaken fulfils the contractual obligations outlined within the Joint Working Agreement. Agreed outcomes are discussed at the monitoring meetings in relation to work undertaken by the young person's worker and the Children's Rights Officer

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

Who Cares? Scotland is an independent advocacy organisation who have provided a service to young people across Scotland since 1978. The organisation works across Scotland with children and young people with experience of care, to advocate and help them speak out, secure their rights and ensure their qualities and successes are recognised across society. This is done by influencing the people, culture and systems that will positively affect their quality of life. The organisation consults with young people from Falkirk Council and other Local Authority areas to ensure their views are fed into local and national policies and legislation. The organisation lobbies the Scottish Government to improve outcomes for all young people in care ensuring that young people with experience of care remain a high priority on the Scottish Government's agenda. The council is required to consult with young people and provide independent advocacy. This service could not be provided within the Council as this could result in conflict with other legal obligations.

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

### Summary of Key Achievements

#### Local Achievements

- Advocacy provided for 79 young people during this period which included 204 individual meetings with young people and 69 formal meetings.
- Young people participated in Children's Hearing Training for Panel Members from the Falkirk Office.
- Young Person's Worker undertook regular visits to residential units within Falkirk and purchased placements out with the Local Authority area to ensure that young people had information about the service and their rights.
- Who Cares? Scotland continues to work in partnership with Quarriers Children's Rights Service to jointly provide a children's rights and advocacy service for Falkirk Council's children and young people. This has included joint service development work, and a new process of jointly monitoring the services.

#### National Achievements

- Launch of the national Anti-Stigma Campaign, "Care to Listen" to kick start the fight to end discrimination of children and young people in and from care. Falkirk Council signed up to the five year campaign along with 28 Local Authorities to help challenge discrimination in our society. Falkirk Council pledged to "set up a regular 'have your say' groups for looked after young people making sure that corporate parents listen to the views of young people and do their best to take action". Who Cares? have been involved in facilitating and taking forward this work locally.
- A young person from Falkirk shared the platform with Who Cares? Scotland's Chief Executive to give a presentation at the ADSW conference.
- Young people from Falkirk took part in the consultation element of the Children and Young Peoples (Scot) act 2014, and were a key part of successfully lobbies for the age of remaining in care to be increased.
- Establishment of a network of 18 consultation groups throughout Scotland supporting participation of 200 young people. Young people from Falkirk participate in the forums covering the central belt.
- Who Cares? Scotland has been commissioned to develop a range of work for the Life

Changes Trust which included a mapping exercise undertaken within all Local Authorities across Scotland. Young people took part in the consultation to help inform the mapping at a local level and will continue to contribute their views to the Life Changes Trust through Forums and a National Care Leaver's Festival.

- Phase 2 of the Corporate Parenting training commissioned by the Scottish Government is underway. Falkirk Council's young people were involved in delivering training within the Local Authority to Head Teachers, following identification of education issues for looked after children through the have Your say Work.

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

The service is contracted for 18.5 hours per week. Due to high demand for advocacy provision it is difficult to respond to all requests for advocacy support within the time available. The organisation does endeavour to respond flexibly using its national links, but is also working within the constraints of a standstill budget which does not allow for further partnership initiatives within the Local Authority.

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

The service continues to work in partnership with Quarriers Children's Rights service to ensure that young people both accommodated and within the community receive a robust children's rights service. The organisation ensures that the views of children and young people are fed into local and national consultations.. This is a key priority of the Council's Corporate Parenting Strategy and action plan.

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

none

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

Joint Who Cares? and Quarriers monitoring meetings take place quarterly, with a Steering Group of key stakeholders which directs focus also meeting quarterly. The Service report twice yearly to the Children's Commission.

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

#### Total Support Provided (Financial & In- Kind Contributions)

Who Cares are given £27,970 per annum by the Council

#### Last Period of Submitted Audited Accounts

September 2013 – due September 2014

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

Who Cares is a robust organisation and there are currently no known risks.

Overall Risk Rating (Low/Medium/High)

Low

## **D CONCLUSIONS**

Summary/ Opinion of Organisations Overall Progress During Year

The service continues to meet a key priority in the Council's corporate parenting action plan. Feedback for young people and other groups is that the service is valued and significantly assists young people to express their views. This is increasingly important with new legislation and recent changes in the Children's hearing system.

## **E COMPLETED BY**

Name

Vivien Thomson

Designation

Service Manager

Date

11<sup>th</sup> September 2014