

The background of the slide features a large, light blue coat of arms of the City of Edinburgh. The coat of arms includes a crown at the top with four thistles, a shield with a cross and four lions, and a motto scroll at the bottom. The text is centered over the shield.

## **AGENDA ITEM**

**6**

# **Following the Public Pound: Early Intervention Services to Children and Young People – 2015/16**

**Falkirk Council**

**Title:** Following The Public Pound: Early Intervention Services To Children And Young People - 2015/2016 Monitoring Report  
**Meeting:** Scrutiny Committee (External)  
**Date:** 6 October 2016  
**Submitted By:** Director of Children's Services

**1. Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 The report requires committee consideration in order to provide accountability and good governance in line with Following the Public Pound for organisations focused on early intervention and early years. The reports summarises the outcomes achieved by the 7 services funded by the Education Section of Children's Services. The Reporting Period is April 2015 to March 2016.
- 1.2 The Services are:
- 1) Aberlour Childcare Trust, Early Years Outreach
  - 2) Aberlour Childcare Trust, Family Support Service - Langlees
  - 3) Barnardo's, Education and Family Support Service
  - 4) Barnardo's, New Beginnings
  - 5) Home Start, Falkirk-West
  - 6) NHS Forth Valley, Speech & Language Therapy Service
  - 7) One Parent Families Scotland, Braes Children and Family Centre

**2. Recommendation(s)**

- 2.1 **It is recommended the Scrutiny Committee considers individual reports for the seven external organisations, and select a course of action from the following options:**
- (1) approve the Report and acknowledge progress by the external organisation in meeting Council priorities;**
  - (2) request further information on specific aspects for service(s) provided; or**
  - (3) request action for follow-up report for future Scrutiny Committee consideration.**

**3. Background**

- 3.1 Falkirk Council has commissioned six services from the Voluntary Sector, focused on early years and early intervention in the early years and funds speech and language therapists employed by NHS Forth Valley. The monitoring reports for the organisations are appended.
- 3.2 These organisations provide services in partnership with Falkirk Council Children's Services. They provide services which the Council cannot readily deliver internally. They provide children and families with assessment, intervention and support and provide the council with expertise in areas of

Getting it Right for Every Child, Scottish Government Policy and Falkirk Council's approach to Inclusion and Additional Support Needs.

- 3.3 As part of the process for following the Public Pound, Monitoring Officers assess risk and measure performance for the organisations they are responsible for. Monitoring is recommended to take the form of regular reports and meetings. Each Monitoring report provides an overview of the service provided, the agreed objectives or outcomes, performance information during the period and a financial overview.
- 3.4 The organisations reported here have each had a change of monitoring officer since the reporting period, which covers April 2015 to March 2016.
- 3.5 The Projects were commissioned in order to assist the council in meeting the needs of children and families and improve outcomes for children.

#### **4. Considerations**

- 4.1 The Committee may wish to consider if the information provided in the appendices for each external organisation satisfies the requirements of Following the Public Pound. The outcomes from the reports are summarised below.

##### Aberlour Childcare Trust (Early Years Outreach Service)

- 4.2 This Service, formerly known as CLASP, is funded by Falkirk Council and a share of the Aberlour fundraising and grants. It works with families and expectant mothers who are adversely impacted by bonding/attachment concerns; difficulty with parenting; disability; domestic abuse; child development concerns; family crisis; limited family support; parental learning disability; parental ill health; poverty; problematic substance use. It provided:
- Support to 824 families and 748 children
  - 86% of children showed improved outcomes, and 12% were maintained at level prior to involvement. 2% of children's outcomes deteriorated.

##### Aberlour Childcare Trust (Family Support Service)

- 4.3 This Service based in Langlees is funded by Falkirk Council through Service Level Agreement and for Eligible 2s, and a share of the Aberlour fundraising and grants. It aims to positively support and strengthen the capacity of families with children under 12 in the Langlees, Bainsford and New Carron area. It provided a service to 152 children and their families:
- Early Learning and Child Care - 46 children and families accessed this service.
  - Stay and Play - 15 children and families.
  - Infant Massage - 33 babies and families
  - Art Therapy - 9 children and adults
  - Individual Support for Families - 18 families
  - Individual Nurture Support for Children - 7 children
  - Video Interaction Guidance -4 families
  - Parenting Assessment Manual (PAMS)- 2 families
  - In My Shoes is a computer assisted interview - 2 children
  - Seasons for Growth –4 children and 4 adults.

- Early Bird group, co-facilitated (with Speech and Language Therapy), assisting 5 families

#### Barnardo's (Education and Family Support Service)

- 4.4 This Service has now been renamed as the Barnardo's Education and Family Resources Service, Early Intervention Team. It is funded by Falkirk Council and Barnardo's. It provided support to children and young people aged birth to 18 years and their parents/carers in Bo'ness Academy and Graeme High clusters. They aim to sustain the child/young person's place in mainstream school and enable families to tackle challenges that have an impact on family functioning and long term outcomes for the child/young person. They provided:-

- 111 children and young people with individual, group work or family sessions, of which 75 were new requests.
- Additional work with parents through group programmes or individual work
- Partnership work at strategic and local level
- Nursery for eligible 2s from April 2015 to June 2016.
- 420 hours of volunteer support in befriending or individual support (100% funded by Barnardo's).
- A training programme for parent helpers on courses for parents
- A programme for parents under 25.

#### Barnardo's (New Beginnings)

- 4.5 This Service is now known as Barnardo's Education and Family Resources Service, Intensive Team. It works in partnership with Oxbang School to enhance the strengths, abilities and coping strategies of the families and young people so that the young people are enabled to remain in their own families. It is funded by Falkirk Council through the Service Level agreement and received additional funding under spend to save to provide direct work with children in as an alternative to school. It provided:-

- Support to 10 children (aged 6-11) and their families through 5170 contact hours of direct work and family support,
- Alternative to school support for 4 of those children (additional spend-to-save funding)
- Improvement in outcomes for 9 of the 10 children
- 100 hours of volunteer support (funded by Barnardo's)
- Contributing to partnership working

#### Home Start

- 4.6 This Service aims to provide a home visiting support service through trained volunteers to vulnerable families with young children. They are funded by Falkirk Council and donations or grants. It offers support, friendship and practical assistance. The target is to provide 30 families with support. This year they provided support to 87 families from 25 volunteers including:

- 4 family groups
- co-facilitated 1 Incredible Years and 2 Triple-P courses
- 2 Triple-P courses for parents in addition
- individual courses of Triple-P to 6 families and Incredible Years to 2 families

- 35 families were supported to use Putting Children First, an online tool for families undergoing separations

#### NHS Forth Valley (Speech & Language Therapy Service)

- 4.7 This Service provides support across Falkirk and is jointly funded by NHS and Falkirk Council. Falkirk Council funds 10.1fte Speech and Language Therapists and NHS 4.1fte in the school based service and 5.8fte service delivered in community clinics. They provided:
- A therapy service for 568 children over a 12 month period. 92% resulted in a satisfactory outcome.
  - Training to 370 Falkirk education staff, with 100% recommending it and 99% were satisfied or very satisfied.
  - A whole school approach through the Focus on Communication and Language Project in 1 Nursery, with spoken language improved by 6 months and 72% of children showing improved early reading skills (phonological skills).
  - Early Bird – co-facilitating groups.

#### One Parent Families Scotland, (Braes Children and Family Centre)

- 4.8 This Service is funded partly by Falkirk Council and grants. They offer nursery and supported child care and a family support service. They provided:
- Family support to 104 parents (117 children), outcomes improved for at least 81% of parents.
  - A specific fathers project for 40 fathers.
  - 33 children with supported childcare
  - 18 children with Nursery placement (Eligible 2s).
  - supported 15 teenagers to complete teen gym inductions which then allows them to access local health and fitness
  - 18 children have been removed from or avoided statutory measures of supervision due to positive engagement with services.
  - Group programmes for 30 children
  - Distributed clothes, baby goods and shoes to 9 families
  - Supported families to access other services or grants

## **5. Consultation**

- 5.1 Nil.

## **6. Implications**

### **Financial**

- 6.1 An assessment of the financial implications and the key aims and outcomes associated with each external organisation is made within each Statement shown in Appendices. An overview of the funding provided for 2015/16 and both the prior and next financial year is provided below.

Name of Organisation	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Appendix
<b>Aberlour Childcare Trust</b> Early years Outreach	£315,162	<b>£276,384</b>	£263,464	<b>1</b>
<b>Aberlour Childcare Trust</b> Family Support Service - Langlees	£225,012	<b>£199,695</b>	£191,260	<b>2</b>
<b>Barnardos</b> Education and Family Support Service	£298,405	<b>£279,208</b>	£262,414	<b>3</b>
<b>Barnardo's</b> New Beginnings	£192,341	<b>£182,724</b>	£182,724	<b>4</b>
<b>Home Start</b>	£29,488	<b>£29,488</b>	£29,488	<b>5</b>
<b>NHS Forth Valley</b> Speech & Language Therapy	£515,040	<b>£465,040</b>	£465,040	<b>6</b>
<b>One Parent Families Scotland</b> Braes Children and Family Centre	£136,064	<b>£120,755</b>	£115,654	<b>7</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£1,711,512</b>	<b>£1,553,294</b>	<b>£1,510,044</b>	

In 2015/16 Falkirk Council provided funding of £1,553,294. This compares with £1,711,512 in the previous financial year.

In addition to the funding provided by Falkirk Council the Voluntary organisations attract an additional £408,394 to the area which is used to enhance service delivery. This is an increase from last year (£370,416) of 10%. NHS Forth Valley also directly provided £455,831 for Speech and Language Therapy Service.

It should be noted that the audited accounts for 2015/2016 are not available as yet from the organisations concerned.

## Resources

- 6.2 The resource implications are described for each organisation within the appendices. The resource implication for the council is monitoring arrangements with seven external organisations.

## Legal

- 6.3 Nil

## Risk

- 6.4 If the services are not provided by these organisations then there is a risk of not being able to attain our objectives.

## Equalities

- 6.5 Nil

## Sustainability/Environmental Impact

6.6 Nil

## **7. Conclusions**

- 7.1 Each organisation has demonstrated improved outcomes for children and families. Members need to consider the information presented on each of the organisations and ensure the council is receiving value for money, contributing to relevant outcomes. These are the basic requirements of Following the Public Pound.

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Robert Naylor, Director of Children's Services

Contact Officer: Nick Balchin, Acting Service Manager for Individual and Additional Support, 01324 590340, [nick.balchin@falkirk.gov.uk](mailto:nick.balchin@falkirk.gov.uk)

Date: 31<sup>st</sup> August 2016

## **Appendices**

### **Annual Reporting Statements Reports**

- 1) Aberlour Childcare Trust, Early years Outreach
- 2) Aberlour Childcare Trust, Family Support Service - Langlees
- 3) Barnardos, Education and Family Support Service
- 4) Barnardo's, New Beginnings
- 5) Home Start
- 6) NHS Forth Valley, Speech & Language Therapy
- 7) One Parent Families Scotland, Braes Children and Family Centre

### **List of Background Papers:**

The following papers were relied on in the preparation of this report in terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973:

- Review of Inclusion and Additional Support Needs, 11 November 2014, Education Executive Paper.
- Following the Public Pound Guidance

<b>FALKIRK COUNCIL CHILDREN'S SERVICES FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC POUND ANNUAL REPORTING STATEMENT 2015/16</b>
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Organisation Name	Aberlour Child Care Trust –
Project	Aberlour Early Years Outreach
Agreement Dates	April 2015 to March 2016
Name of Lead Officer	Monitoring period: Elaine Costello Report: Nick Balchin

## A OVERALL ORGANISATION AIMS

### Summary of Key Aims & Objectives

Aberlour Child Care Trust will provide a service to vulnerable families and those experiencing multiple stress across Falkirk although primarily in:-  
Airth/Bantaskine/Bothkennar/Camelon/Carronshore/Denny/Dunipace/Dennyloanhead/  
Dunmore/ Fankerton/Grangemouth/Haggs/ Head of Muir/Longcroft/Larbert/Letham/Skinflats/  
Stenhousemuir/ Stoneywood/South Alloa/Tamfourhill/Torwood.

It is offered to expectant parents and those with children under the age of 4 years. This support to parents will have a direct impact on the wellbeing and development of their children. Staff will work on an outreach basis in families' homes and making use of local amenities.

### List of Agreed Outcomes

When working with families staff assess the families' needs by using Aberlour Outcomes Framework. This is done with the families and involves them exploring their welling in-line with SHANARRI (Safe, Healthy, Achieving, Nurtured, Active, Respected, Responsible, Included). A programme of support is then agreed and support is focused on improving the areas of need identified.

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

Aberlour Child Care Trust outreach service is funded by Children's Services and Aberlour Child Care Trust. Their work is well established in the area and compliments the work of our own family support service.

Aberlour Child Care Trust are able to attract funding from other funders to support this work based on the funding we provide.

## B ACTUAL PERFORMANCE vs. OBJECTIVES / AGREED OUTCOMES

### Summary of Key Achievements

It provided Support to 824 families and 748 children, with 85% of children showed improved outcomes, and 12% were maintained at level prior to involvement. 2% of children's outcomes deteriorated.

### **Programmes and methods**

Finding a Balance Group, Infant Massage, Positive Parents Group, Seasons for Growth for



Adults, Sleep Scotland Counselling, Information Sessions, Stay & Play sessions, Individual Work, Linked Child-minding scheme (co-ordinate short term placements for families experiencing crisis).

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

A reduction in next year's funding will have an impact of the number of families the service will be able engage with, further reduction in subsequent years will continue to reduce this.

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

Aberlour Early Years Outreach have played a key part in:-

- Continuing to improve health, safety and wellbeing of our citizens and communities
- Increasing our efforts to tackle disadvantage and discrimination

By building family capacity and supporting children and their families to reach their potential.

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

None.

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

The monitoring officer has changed and therefore initial meetings have been quarterly.

### **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

	FC Funding	FC In Kind	Total
2014/15	£315,162	£3,000	£318,162
<b>2015/16</b>	<b>£276,384</b>	<b>£3,000</b>	<b>£279,384</b>
2016/17	£263,464	£3,000	£266,464
2017/18	£263,464	£3,000	£266,464

In addition to the above Aberlour have raised funding for services of £105,157 which includes :

- £82,000 for Aberlour Perinatal Befriending Support.
- £12,000 to evaluate Aberlour's Finding a Balance programme (group work for parents experiencing depression and/or anxiety).
- £2,000 for families affected poverty (funds used to provide food for families, particular over the school holidays)
- £1,500 for summer activities
- £2,100 for providing winter clothes, Christmas food, electricity, furniture

#### Last Period of Submitted Audited Accounts

Awaiting receipt of audited accounts for year ending 31 March 2016

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

Further cuts to funding will result in a reduction of service. Introduction of costs for community venues will impact on delivery of service.

Overall Risk Rating (Low/Medium/High)

Medium due to uncertainty around future funding.

**D CONCLUSIONS**

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

Aberlour Early Years Outreach service has had a positive impact on children and their families. The Aberlour Outcomes Framework shows a high level of children and their families that engage and participate have improved or sustained their wellbeing.

**E COMPLETED BY**

Name

Nick Balchin

Designation

Acting Service Manager, Individual and Additional Support

Date

31/8/2016

**FALKIRK COUNCIL CHILDREN'S SERVICES  
FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC POUND ANNUAL REPORTING STATEMENT 2015/16**

Organisation Name	Aberlour Child Care Trust
Project	Family Centre - Langlees
Agreement Dates	April 2015 to March 2016
Name of Lead Officer	Monitoring period: Elaine Costello Report: Nick Balchin
<b>A OVERALL ORGANISATION AIMS</b>	
<u>Summary of Key Aims &amp; Objectives</u>	
<p>Aberlour Child Care Trust Family Centre – Langlees will primarily offer support to expectant parents and children up to the age of 12 years. This support to parents will have a direct impact on the wellbeing and development of their children. Staff will work with families within the Family Support Centre as well as in the Community</p>	
<u>List of Agreed Outcomes</u>	
<p>When working with families staff assess the families' needs by using Aberlour Outcomes Framework. This is done with the families and involves them exploring their welling in-line with SHANARRI (Safe, Healthy, Achieving, Nurtured, Active, Respected, Responsible, Included). A programme of support is then agreed and support is focused on improving the areas of need identified.</p>	
<u>Why Service/Project is Funded Externally Rather than by the Council</u>	
<p>Aberlour Family Support Centre – Langlees is funded by Children's Services and Aberlour Child Care Trust. Their work is well established in the area and complements the work of our own Family Support Service and Nurseries. Aberlour Child Care Trust are able to attract funding from other funders to support this work based on the funding we provide.</p>	

## ACTUAL PERFORMANCE vs. OBJECTIVES / AGREED OUTCOMES

### Summary of Key Achievements

It provided a service to 152 children and their families:

- Early Learning and Child Care - 46 children and families accessed this service, including Eligible 2 year olds (10 places).
- Stay and Play - 15 children and families.
- Infant Massage - 33 babies and families
- Art Therapy - 9 children and adults
- Individual Support for Families - 18 families
- Individual Nurture Support for Children - 7 children
- Video Interaction Guidance - 4 families
- Parenting Assessment Manual (PAMS) - 2 families
- In My Shoes is a computer assisted interview - 2 children
- Seasons for Growth –4 children and 4 adults.
- Early Bird group, co-facilitated (with Speech and Language Therapy), assisting 5 families

### Summary of Key Issues/ Challenges Facing Organisation

A reduction in next year's funding will have an impact of the number of families the service will be able engage with, further reduction in subsequent years will continue to reduce this with a potential negative impact on outcomes for young children.

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

Aberlour Family Support Centre - Langlees have played a key part in:-

- Continuing to improve health, safety and wellbeing of our citizens and communities
- Increasing our efforts to take disadvantage and discrimination by building family capacity and supporting children and their families to reach their potential.

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

None.

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

The monitoring officer has changed and therefore initial meetings have been quarterly.

## 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

	FC Funding (SLA)	FC In Kind	Total
2014/15	£225,012	£3000	£228,012
2015/16	<b>£199,695</b>	<b>£3000</b>	<b>£202,695</b>
2016/17	£191,260	£3000	£194,260
2017/18	£191,260	£3000	£194,260

In addition Falkirk Council also provided funding of £38,600 to meet the statutory provision of Eligible 2 year olds as part of the Scottish Government expansion of Early Years provision.

### Last Period of Submitted Audited Accounts

Year ending 31 March 2014

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

Further cuts to funding will result in a reduction of service.

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

Medium due to uncertainty around future funding.

## D CONCLUSIONS

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

Aberlour Family Support Centre - Langlees has had a positive impact on children and their families. The Aberlour Outcomes Framework shows a high level of children and their families that engage and participate have improved or sustained their wellbeing.

## E COMPLETED BY

<u>Name</u>	Nick Balchin
<u>Designation</u>	Acting Service Manager, Individual and Additional Support
<u>Date</u>	31/8/2016

**FALKIRK COUNCIL CHILDREN'S SERVICES  
FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC POUND ANNUAL REPORTING STATEMENT 2015/16**

Organisation Name	Barnardo's
Project	Barnardo's Education and Family Support Service
Agreement Dates	April 2015 to March 2016
Name of Lead Officer	Monitoring Officer for period: Elaine Costello Report: Nick Balchin

## **A OVERALL ORGANISATION AIMS**

### Summary of Key Aims & Objectives

Barnardo's, Education and Family Support Service has been renamed as the Barnardo's Education and Family Resources Service, Early Intervention Team. It is funded by Falkirk Council and Barnardo's. It provided support to children and young people aged birth to 18 years and their parents/carers in Bo'ness Academy and Graeme High clusters. They aim to sustain the child/young person's place in mainstream school and enable families to tackle challenges that have an impact on family functioning and long term outcomes for the child/young person.

### List of Agreed Outcomes

When working with young people and their families the service assesses needs using the Barnardo's Outcomes Framework. This is done with the young person or family member and involves them exploring their wellbeing in line with the wellbeing indicators (Safe, Healthy, Achieving, Nurtured, Active, Respected, Responsible, and Included). A programme of support is then agreed and support is focused on improving the area of need identified.

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

This service is funded by Children's Services and Barnardo's. The Family Centre is well established and the family support work compliments our own family support work.

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

### Summary of Key Achievements

#### They delivered in 2015/16:

- 111 children and young people with individual, group work or family sessions, of which 75 were new requests.
- Additional work with parents through group programmes or individual work
- Partnership work at strategic and local level
- Nursery for eligible 2s from April 2015 to June 2016.
- 420 hours of volunteer support in befriending or individual support (100% funded by Barnardo's).
- A training programme for parent helpers on courses for parents
- A programme for parents under 25

### Summary of Key Issues/ Challenges Facing Organisation

Staffing changes and funding remain a challenge.

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

Barnardo's Education and Family Support Service have played a key part in:-

- Continuing to improve the health, safety and wellbeing of our citizens and communities
- Increasing our efforts to tackle disadvantage

by building family capacity and supporting children and young people to maintain their places in education.

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

Nil.

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

Officer has changed and meetings have been twice yearly. This will move to quarterly.

## **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

	FC Funding	FC In Kind	Total
2014/15	£298,405	£16,200	£314,605
<b>2015/16</b>	<b>£279,208</b>	<b>£16,200</b>	<b>£295,408</b>
2016/17	£262,414	£16,200	£278,614
2017/18	£262,414	£16,200	£278,614

In addition Barnardo's attracts through this project **£70,240** through Barnardo's Voluntary Funds Grant (£65,132) and External Grants (£5,108). They provide co-ordination and training for additional volunteers.

### Last Period of Submitted Audited Accounts

Awaiting receipt of audited accounts for year ending 31 March 2016

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

Continued cuts to funding will result in a reduction of service.

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

Medium due to uncertainty around future funding

**D CONCLUSIONS**

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

Barnardo's Education and Family Support Service continues to have a positive impact on children, young people and their families. The Barnardo's Outcome Framework shows a high level of children, young people and their families that engage and participate have improved or sustained their wellbeing.

**E COMPLETED BY**

Name

Nick Balchin

Designation

Acting Service Manager, Individual and Additional Support

Date

31/8/2016



**FALKIRK COUNCIL CHILDREN'S SERVICES  
FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC POUND ANNUAL REPORTING STATEMENT 2015/16**

Organisation Name	Barnardo's
Project	New Beginnings is now known as <b>Barnardo's Education and Family Resources Service, Intensive Team.</b>
Agreement Dates	April 2015 – March 2016
Name of Lead Officer	Monitoring Officer during period: David Mackay Report: Nick Balchin

**A OVERALL ORGANISATION AIMS**

Summary of Key Aims & Objectives

Working in partnership with Oxfang School and Outreach Service, the Oxfang Family Support Team provides a range of flexible support to children and their families who have been prioritised by the Oxfang 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

List of Agreed Outcomes

The Oxfang 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 Oxfang, 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

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 ACTUAL PERFORMANCE vs. OBJECTIVES / AGREED OUTCOMES

### Summary of Key Achievements

In 2014/15 the service worked with 22 children and their families.

In 2015/16 it provided:-

- Support to 10 children (aged 6-11) and their families through 5170 contact hours of direct work and family support,
- Alternative to school support for 4 of those children (additional funding),
- Improvement in outcomes for 9 of the 10 children
- 100 hours of volunteer support (funded by Barnardo's)
- Contributing to partnership working

### Summary of Key Issues/ Challenges Facing Organisation

- The major challenge facing this organisation was the requirement to support Oxbang School on a very flexible basis during times of extreme challenge. This required diverting staff from their core activities to meet the needs of some children on a fulltime basis.

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

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

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

The Service worked with a fewer number of families than in previous years, although was providing more intensive support.

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

Officer has changed and meetings have been quarterly.

## 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

	FC Funding	FC In Kind	Total
2014/15	£192,341	£14,000	£206,341
<b>2015/16</b>	<b>£182,724</b>	<b>£14,000</b>	<b>£196,724</b>
2016/17	£182,724	£14,000	£196,724
2017/18	£182,724	£14,000	£196,724

In addition Falkirk Council provided funding to support the statutory requirements/needs for 4 children to prevent them moving to independent special schools. This spend of c£123,000 meant that the Service saved £117,000 on residential school expenditure. In addition Barnardo's attracts through this project **£42,434** through Barnardo's Voluntary Funds Grant (£40,484) and External Grants (£1,950).

### Last Period of Submitted Audited Accounts

Awaiting accounts for year end 31 March 2016.

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

- Meeting the increased demands and challenges faced by children experiencing difficulties within our existing resources
- This work of this service will be realigned with the outcomes of the Inclusion Review
- Further reduction in funding would affect the intensity and amount of support that could be offered to children and families

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

- Medium

### **D CONCLUSIONS**

#### Summary/ opinion of organisation's overall progress carried forward from last report, and also during this year

Good work and progress has been made during the year, hampered slightly by the pressures faced in Oxbang School. Its numbers in receipt of family support are slightly low but compensated for by the work involved in supporting the school in a more intensive approach with children.

### **E COMPLETED BY**

Name

Nick Balchin

Designation

Acting Service Manager, Individual and Additional Support

Date

31/8/2016

**FALKIRK COUNCIL CHILDRENS' SERVICES  
FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC POUND ANNUAL REPORTING STATEMENT 2015/16**

Organisation Name	Home-Start
Project	Home-Start Falkirk West
Agreement Dates	April 2015 to March 2016
Name of Lead Officer	Monitoring Officer during period: Elaine Costello Report: Nick Balchin

## **A OVERALL ORGANISATION AIMS**

### Summary of Key Aims & Objectives

Home-Start Falkirk West provide a home visiting support service through trained volunteers within Denny, Bonnybridge and Banknock areas to vulnerable families with young children and a small amount of support to the wider Falkirk area.

The service aims are:-

- To offer support, friendship and practical assistance.
- To visit families in their homes, where the dignity and identify of each adult can be respected.
- To develop a relationship with the family using a flexible approach to take account of differing 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 wellbeing for the ultimate benefit of their children.
- To encourage families to widen their network of relationships and to use the support services in the community.
- To manage and develop the service in-line with the quantified objectives against the performance standards and performance indicators specified in the Joint Working Agreement.

### List of Agreed Outcomes

30 families will be provided with support and 20 volunteers will provide this support. The service will actively work with other agencies to the benefit of local families.

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

Home-Start recruit and develop volunteers to undertake the support to parents, the volunteers are checked and verified using Home-Start Quality Assurance Scheme. Our funding supports the co-ordination of these volunteers. Funding is supplemented by big lottery, donations and fund raising.

## B ACTUAL PERFORMANCE vs. OBJECTIVES / AGREED OUTCOMES

### Summary of Key Achievements

87 families were supported by 25 volunteers. Support offered includes home-visiting and family groups which meet on a four weekly basis. At these groups parents have access to a wide range of services including Citizen's Advice Bureau and Credit Union. They are using a new monitoring and evaluation system for the family and the child (MESH) using SHANARRI indicators. This will take three months further to be fully embedded. Current data indicates that 60 families have shown an improvement in at least one area.

Homestart ran 4 family groups. They have run 2 Triple-P courses for parents in addition to contributing to the Falkirk Council coordinated courses (co-facilitated 1 Incredible Years and 2 Triple-P courses). They have provided individual courses of Triple-P to 6 families and Incredible Years to 2 families. 35 families were supported to use Putting Children First, an online tool for families undergoing separations.

### Summary of Key Issues/ Challenges Facing Organisation

The Manager of Homestart was absent from March 2016 to June 2016. A new Coordinator started in January 2016 who helped manage the service in the absence period.

Any funding cuts to the service will present a challenge, without co-ordination and quality assurance the work could not continue. The service fundraise to support/compliment the work.

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

Home-Start Falkirk West have contributed to the Council goals by:-

- Continuing to improve health, safety and wellbeing of our citizens and community
- Increasing our efforts to tackle disadvantage and discrimination

They do this by volunteers supporting vulnerable families.

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

None

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

Monitoring officer has changed and meetings were twice yearly.

## 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

	FC Funding	FC In Kind	Total
2014/15	£29,488	£6000	£35,488
<b>2015/16</b>	<b>£29,488</b>	<b>£6000</b>	<b>£35,488</b>
2016/17	£29,488	£6000	£35,488
2017/18	£29,488	£6000	£35,488

Homestart attracted additional funding of £89,200. This came from Big Lottery, STV, Robertson Trust, DWP and donations/fundraising.

Last Period of Submitted Audited Accounts

Awaiting audited accounts for year ending 31 March 2016.

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

The organisation has some reserves to cover any unforeseen expenses. Future cuts to funding would also pose a risk and would impact on their ability to provide the service.

Overall Risk Rating (Low/Medium/High)

High – if loss of funding from Falkirk Council.

**D CONCLUSIONS**

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

The organisation continues to make good progress and offers good value for money. Work is being undertaken to allow them to report more specifically on outcomes for each family.

**E COMPLETED BY**

Name

Nick Balchin

Designation

Acting Service Manager, Individual and Additional Support

Date

31/8/2016

**FALKIRK COUNCIL CHILDREN'S SERVICES  
FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC POUND ANNUAL REPORTING STATEMENT 2015/16**

Organisation Name	National Health Service Forth Valley
Project	Speech and Language Therapy
Agreement Dates	April 2014-Mar 2017
Name of Lead Officer	Monitoring Officer during period: Andrew Facherty Report: Nick Balchin

## **A OVERALL ORGANISATION AIMS**

### Summary of Key Aims & Objectives

The Service Level Agreement between Falkirk Council Children's Services and NHS Forth Valley ensures that the language-based 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. This is an essential partnership within Getting It Right For Every Child and the Children and Young People Act.

### 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, improving outcomes in safety, nurture, health, achievement, activity, responsibility and inclusion. The Speech and Language Therapy Team aims to work in partnerships with families and schools 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 Children's Services Education Division in providing Continuing Professional Development for its staff
- work alongside Education and other agencies in the Early Years Collaborative

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

This service combines the work of Falkirk Council Children's Services schools and Early Years facilities on language and communication with the efforts of Forth Valley National Health Service to tackle similar issues. The engagement of qualified, experienced Speech and Language Therapists is essential to this – they bring skills in assessment, treatment and home follow-up that teachers and Support for Learning Assistants do not have.

Professionally, Speech and Language Therapists are also clinically supervised – Falkirk Council does not have the staff to do this.

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

### Summary of Key Achievements

NHS FV Speech and Language Therapy Service provided:

- 753 children were referred in Falkirk. 359 were referred by education which equates to 47.6% of the total number of referrals. In the 12 month period the jointly funded Speech and Language Therapy resource (as covered by the Service Level Agreement) reached 1185 unique children and provided 5283 contacts.
- A therapy service for 578 children over a 12 month period. 94% resulted in a satisfactory outcome.
- Training to 370 Falkirk education staff, with 100% recommending it and 99% were satisfied or very satisfied.
- Through the FoCaL initiative (a whole school approach) 373 children showed improved spoken language by 14.5 months in the 9 months of involvement and children's phonological awareness skills improved by 72%.

### Summary of Key Issues/ Challenges Facing Organisation

- Recruitment and retention of staff
- Continuing to meet the needs of children who are experiencing communication difficulties in their homes, schools or communities and improve outcomes, data is suggesting there is will be an increase in school aged children with these difficulties.

### 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. Additionally there is a scrutiny panel, with Headteacher representation from the Early Years and Primary Improvement Partnership.

## **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

### **Total Support Provided (Financial and In-Kind Contributions):**

- £515,040 (2014-15)
- **£465,040 (2015-16), 51% of income**
- £465,040 (2016-17)
- £465,040 (2017-18)

Falkirk Council funds 10.1fte Speech and Language Therapists and NHS Forth Valley funds 4.1fte in the school based service (covered in the Service Level Agreement) and



5.8fte service delivered in community clinics (9.9 fte total from NHS). NHS funding of the Service is £455,831 per annum in staff and they provide the additional cost of overheads such as office and clinic accommodation, training, and ICT and administration. An additional c£55,000 was paid to FVHB to support Early Years Communication and Learning Project.

#### Last Period of Submitted Audited Accounts

Awaiting Year Ending 31 March 2016

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

The Service Level Agreement for 2014-17 was cut by £50,000 per annum from the previous three year Service Level Agreement, resulting in a reduction of the number children seen, and a greater emphasis on the group- and school-wide initiatives

In this project NHS Forth Valley has a significant number of staff whose funding is dependent on Falkirk Council. With the variability of local authority budgets, NHS Forth Valley is carrying high risk of underfunding.

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

Medium

### **D CONCLUSIONS**

#### Summary/ opinion of organisation's overall progress carried forward from last report, and also during this year

Good work and progress has been made during the year working in partnership with schools. Outcomes for children have improved where service has been provided.

### **E COMPLETED BY**

<u>Name</u>	Nick Balchin
<u>Designation</u>	Acting Service Manager, Individual and Additional Support
<u>Date</u>	31/8/2016

**FALKIRK COUNCIL CHILDREN'S SERVICES**  
**FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC POUND ANNUAL REPORTING STATEMENT 2015/16**

Organisation Name	One Parent Families Scotland
Project	Braes Children and Families Centre
Agreement Dates	April 2015 to March 2016
Name of Lead Officer	Monitoring Officer for period: Elaine Costello Report: Nick Balchin

**A OVERALL ORGANISATION AIMS**

Summary of Key Aims & Objectives

Braes Children and Families Centre based in Maddiston offers a range of support to parents (especially lone parents) on a variety of issues via family support and advice, supported childcare sessions and Nursery placements for Eligible 2 year olds.

Service Aims

- 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 ensure each child is offered appropriate protection and guidance.
- To promote good physical and emotional health for children and their families.
- To support children to develop their communication, social and cognitive skills.
- To encourage caregivers to participate in their child's early years learning.
- To offer a safe nurturing environment to each child and their family.
- To offer a space where each child has an opportunity to participate in stimulating activities.
- To ensure each child and family feel listened to and are taken seriously.
- To ensure each child and their family are fully involved in decisions which concern them.
- To promote acceptable behaviour while accessing the service, at home and the local community.
- To promote opportunities for parents within the centre and in partnership with other voluntary and statutory agencies in the Falkirk area.
- To promote local opportunities within the community.
- To offer a service that accepts and values the views of children and their families.

List of Agreed Outcomes

- Children will have access to positive learning environments and opportunities to develop their skills, confidence and self-esteem.
- Parents, especially lone parents will be better equipped to ensure that their children have healthy, stable and supportive home environments.

- Children and their families are supported to overcome social, educational, physical, environmental and economic barriers that create inequality within their communities.
- Parents, especially lone parents will increase their capacity and resilience to deal with the complex issues they face.
- Children have improved opportunity to take part in activities such as play, recreation and sport which contributes to improved healthy growth and development.

When families are referred to the service their needs are assessed using the Barnardo's Outcomes Framework (the framework has been adapted to enable service to report in a comparable way to other externally funded family support services). This is done with the child and family using SHANARRI (Safe, Healthy, Achieving, Nurtured, Active, Respected, Responsible, Included) wellbeing indicators. A programme of support is then agreed.

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

One Parent Families Scotland complement the work of Children's Services family support with the additional expense of working with lone parents they also have national resources to address benefit advice and income maximisation. By funding the service, this also allows them to apply for further funding from STV appeal, Third Sector Early Intervention Fund and Robertson Trust.

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

#### Summary of Key Achievements

They provided:

- Family support to 104 parents (117 children), outcomes improved for at least 81% of parents.
- A specific project for 40 fathers.
- 33 children with supported childcare
- 18 children with Nursery placement (Eligible 2s).
- supported 15 teenagers to complete teen gym inductions which then allows them to access local health and fitness
- 18 children have been removed from or avoided statutory measures of supervision due to positive engagement with services.
- Group programmes for 30 children
- Distributed clothes, baby goods and shoes to 9 families
- Supported families to access other services or grants

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

A key challenge for One Parent Families Scotland in Braes has been to restructure the service to meet the financial cuts of 15%. They have responded to this in a positive manner by joining up services and re-focusing work on family support. This complements provision provided by Falkirk Council for vulnerable two year olds.

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

One Parent Families Scotland at Braes Children and Family Centre contributes to the corporate goals by:-

- Continuing to improve health, safety and wellbeing 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

The monitoring officer has changed and therefore initial meetings have been quarterly.

**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

	FC Funding	FC In Kind	Total
2014/15	£136,064	£6000	£142,064
<b>2015/16</b>	<b>£120,755</b>	<b>£6000</b>	<b>£126,755</b>
2016/17	£115,654	£6000	£121,654
2017/18	£115,654	£6000	£121,654

In addition One Parent Families Scotland attracted additional funding of **£101,863** from grants and donations. Falkirk Council also provided funding of £33,950 to meet the statutory requirements of Eligible 2 Year Olds as part of the Scottish Government Early years provision

Last Period of Submitted Audited Accounts

Awaiting Audited Accounts for year end 31 March 2016.

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

The main risk to the service will be any further cuts to the funding which would result in a reduction of families being supported.

Overall Risk Rating (Low/Medium/High)

Medium due to uncertainty around future funding.

**D CONCLUSIONS**

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

One Parent Families Scotland in the Braes Family Centre continues to have a positive impact on children and their families.  
The Barnardo's Outcomes Framework shows that families who engaged with the service either improved or sustained their wellbeing in the areas identified.

E COMPLETED BY	
<u>Name</u>	Nick Balchin
<u>Designation</u>	Acting Service Manager, Individual and Additional Support
<u>Date</u>	31/8/2016