



NEWPORT
CITY COUNCIL
CYNGOR DINAS
CASNEWYDD

END OF YEAR REVIEW

CHILDREN SERVICES

2022-24



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Strategic Leads

Cabinet Member for Social Services	Councillor Jason Hughes
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Introduction

Newport City Council's Corporate Plan 2022-27 has four Well-being Objectives to support its mission to deliver an Ambitious, Fairer and Greener Newport for everyone and contribute towards Wales' Well-being Goals set in the Well-being of Future Generations Act. To support the delivery of these objectives and strategic priorities, each service area has developed their service plan. The Children Services Service Plan 2022-24 outlines its own priorities and how the service will contribute towards the Corporate Plan and deliver continuous improvement.

Children Services is part of the Council's Social Services Directorate and is responsible for delivering a range of services to families and children in need including specialist provision for those most vulnerable and at risk of social exclusion, such as those at risk of significant harm, disabled children, children looked after and unaccompanied (separated) children and young people.

Children & Family Services has responsibility for providing services under the Social Services and Wellbeing Act and Adoption Act 2002 which extends the range of services and support to those involved in the adoption process; responsibility for providing fostering service under the fostering regulations and Residential care under the RISCA Act. Youth Justice Services are provided by the multi-agency Youth Justice service established under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

Our statement of purpose: *'To promote and safeguard the wellbeing of children and young people in need within their families, and where this is not possible, to provide good quality alternative care'*.

Children Services Objectives

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

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

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

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

Head of Service Executive Summary

The key factors for Children Services have not changed. Fundamental to all our work is firstly to support children to remain safely with their families. Our emphasis on preventative services alongside support for families to explore their strengths and meet the needs of their children is crucial in meeting this first outcome. Secondly when children are in our care and leave our care, we must do everything to support them to ensure positive outcomes. Children and families deserve services that are truly holistic and recognise the multifaceted nature of family's lives. To ensure we can work to meet this need partnership underpins our service. We work with families and a broad range of agencies to meet our stated outcomes and to offer the best possible services.

2022/23 has certainly brought some challenges for Childrens Services as a result of the national recruitment and retention challenge. The immense day to day pressure on front line social workers who are working with children and families who are at considerable risk, societal pressures linked to public perceptions of risk and perceived failings, the volume of need and handling the expectations, and fears of the public and other agencies, managing changing expectations from CIW. We have also experienced increasing demands on social workers from the judiciary, finding suitable placements for children with complex needs and challenging behaviour. This is now compounded by the not for profit eliminate agenda, managing significant budget pressures particularly those arising from placement costs as well as balancing emerging evidence in practice developments and changes in guidance, regulation and requirements.

The aftermath of the pandemic on families continues to emerge and has been reflected in both the increasing numbers and complexity of referrals to Children Services. Despite the increases the number of children looked after has remained stable and we have not seen a significant rise in the number of children on the child protection register. Social work teams continue to engage with partners to ensure a whole systems approach is taken to ensure that children remain safely at home with their families.

Despite the challenges 22/23 has brought many opportunities for Children Services to evaluate and develop needs led provision to safely meet the needs of children and families. The new Service Manager group have brought a wealth of knowledge and experience and are instrumental in developing our service plan moving forward. There are a number of projects underway in Children Services which include:

- Maethu Cymru/Foster Wales continues to drive a way forward to increase the number of foster carers in Local Authorities and to ensure the quality of care.
- In residential care, Windmill Farm has been completed and Cambridge House is under renovation. Mill Barn annexes are very close to registration by CIW, Forest Lodge and Rosedale annexes are under renovation. A disabled children residential provision is currently being scoped with the assistance of a Registered Social Landlord.
- A regional team is being developed by Children Services assisted by Welsh Government funding to lead on the Eliminate agenda.
- Properties have been identified to progress with a care leaver project and 16-18 year old supported accommodation provision.
- Newport Children Services continues to lead on developing a regional approach to assist Local Authorities in building an infrastructure to meet the need of the unaccompanied children arriving through the now mandated National Transfer Scheme or by spontaneous arrival.
- Our Disabled Children's Team continues to develop services to promote the independence of some of the most vulnerable children we support.
- The YJS Turnaround project has been launched to assist Newport in preventing young people entering the criminal justice system.

Looking forward to 23/24 Children Services has a few exciting projects in motion assisted by Welsh Government grant funding. These include:

- The redevelopment of the CWTCH.
- The enhanced rapid response and therapeutic offer.
- Enhancing our current portfolio of in house fostering and residential provision.
- The expansion of the Immigration Pathway Team

Children Services 2022/23 Overview

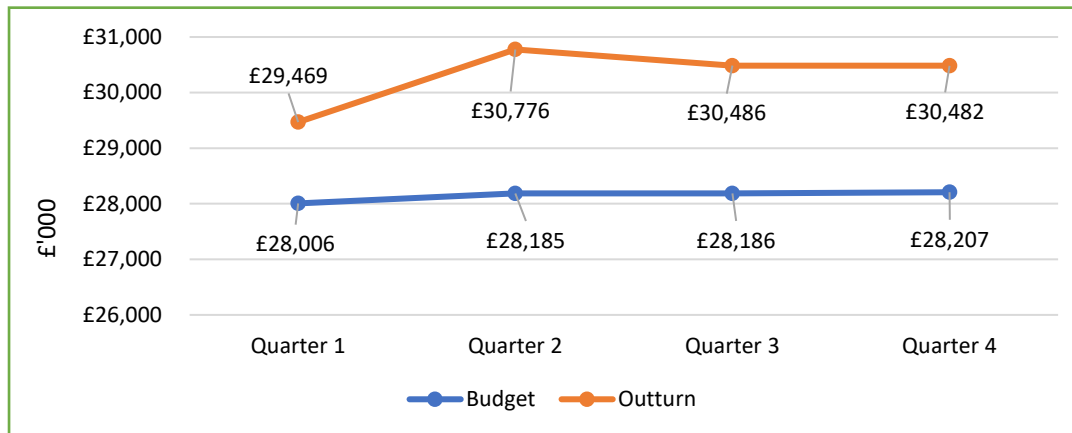
Service Plan Objectives

Objective	End of Year (Red / Amber / Green)
Objective 1 – Deliver effective services to support children to safely remain with their families.	Amber
Objective 2 – Improve outcomes for children in care and care leavers including a focus on safe reunification.	Green
Objective 3 – Ensure a range of placements are available for children looked after.	Amber
Objective 4 – Prevent offending and re-offending by children and young people.	Green

Service Area Risks

Risk	Corporate / Service Risk	Inherent Risk Score	Target Risk Score	Quarter 1 Risk Score	Quarter 2 Risk Score	Quarter 3 Risk Score	Quarter 4 Risk Score
Pressure on the Delivery of Children Services	Corporate Risk	20	12	20	25	25	25
(NEW) Eliminate Profit from Social Care	Service Risk	20	9	-	-	15	15
Safeguarding Risk	Service Risk	20	4	4	4	4	4

Service Area Revenue Outturn



Programmes and Projects

Programme / Project Title	Project Overview	Well-being Objective(s) supported	Expected Completion Date (Quarter / Year)	Quarter 4 RAG Assessment / % Completion	Commentary
Residential Children's Homes Programme	<p>Increase the number of placements for children available in residential care in Newport by developing LA provision. In doing so children can be cared for locally and are more able to develop resilience and sustain their local connections. Ensuring we are aspirational in the care of our children is part of this ambition as well as promoting the best use of our resources.</p> <p>This links with the WG eliminate profit agenda, regional developments and assists in providing support for children with the highest levels of vulnerability. The planned developments, include completion of Windmill Farm and Mill Barn, completion of Rosedale Annexes, work with Action for Children to develop a partnership to open a regional home for disabled children in Stow Hill, secure Cambridge House funding and change of use for Unaccompanied Asylum Seeker Children (UASC) for children aged under 16 to support the National Transfer Scheme regionally.</p>	<p>Well-being Objective 3</p>	<p>Quarter 4 2027/28</p>	<p>72%</p>	<p>Considerable work is being invested in this area which includes UASC home and a Disabled Children's residential provision. A Transformation team is being developed to take this work forward on a regional basis.</p>

Programme / Project Title	Project Overview	Well-being Objective(s) supported	Expected Completion Date (Quarter / Year)	Quarter 4 RAG Assessment / % Completion	Commentary
<p>Unaccompanied Asylum Seeker Children (UASC)</p> <p>International Team</p>	<p>Newport is currently leading on a regional collaboration in order to develop effective services for unaccompanied minors in Gwent. A project manager has been appointed in order to scope existing services across Gwent and to mobile more rural LA's in developing a sufficient infrastructure and to meet the pressures of the mandated National Transfer Scheme.</p> <p>Newport is a City of Sanctuary and supports families seeking refuge. Newport has seen a significant number of families settling in the City without recourse to public funds and fleeing war torn countries. Navigating the complex systems is a challenge for practitioners and families and therefore we seek to create an international social work team to develop expertise in order to ensure that our support offer meets the needs of the citizens presenting to us.</p>	Well-being Objective 3	Quarter 4 2023/24	80%	The team is being established. We have a team manager in place and the current plans involve expanding the team with additional staffing capacity to include a support work role, a senior practitioner role and part funding for an immigration specialist advisory post. Furthermore, we are funding a third sector partner to provide some additional support work capacity at the GAP.
<p>Regional Independent Domestic Violence Advocates (IDVA) service</p>	<p>Outsource commissioning of the Regional IDVA service. Third sector consortia to manage and develop further the regional resource funded by VAWDASV Welsh Government grant and Police and Crime Commissioner Office.</p>	Well-being Objective 3	Quarter 4 2022/23	80%	Options paper to be taken to next commissioning board.

Workforce Development

To support workforce development across Children Services the following actions have been identified as priority between 2022-24.

Action	Outcome(s) of Action Delivery	Action Start Date	Expected Completion Date	Q4 RAG Assessment / % Completion	Commentary
Build on the existing work to support staff to access social care training including the Open University route to social work qualification.	Retain staff in Newport and increase the pool of qualified social work staff.	1 st October 2022	31 st March 2024	40%	Training for the interview process has been offered to applicants. Interviews will take place in June. The process is being managed by the workforce development team.
Access appropriate regional and National workforce development groups to increase capacity and support the whole social care workforce.	Increase the number of applications of staff to posts in Newport and retain staff within the social care workforce.	1 st April 2022	31 st March 2024	70%	We continue to represent Newport at a regional and national level to develop strategies to create opportunities to build workforce sufficiency.
Children Services - In addition to routine supervision and team meetings and for all teams provide regular sessions for wellbeing and support.	Support staff in their own well-being and ensure staff are motivated and enabled to carry out their roles.	1 st April 2022	31 st March 2024	C	There are frequent staff conferences to focus on staff well-being and to assist the management team in understanding levels of staff morale. Staff questionnaires have been used across the teams to understand areas of strengths and challenge. Staff consultation has taken place with Cabinet Members to assist staff having their voice heard in a political context.

Objectives and Action Plan Update

Objective 1 - Deliver effective services to support children to safely remain with their families.						Objective 1 End of Year Assessment	
Ref	Action	Action Outcome(s)	Well-being Objective Supported	Start Date	Expected Completion Date	Q4 RAG Assessment / % Completion	Commentary
1	Completion and implementation of Welsh Government action plan to work towards reducing the numbers of children who are looked after (CLA).	The delivery of all the actions in this section will support Children Services objective to reduce the number of children who are looked after and enable effective early intervention and prevention.	WBO 3 / Strategic Priority 2 WBO 3 / Strategic Priority 4	1 st October 2022	31 st March 2026	10%	SAFE CLA reduction task group has now been started and Newport forms are being developed to help drive forward the SAFE CLA reduction agenda. A SAFE CLA operational panel meeting is due to be set up and implemented in May 2023.
2	Restructure the child protection teams.	The teams will have greater capacity to prioritise risk and support children to safely remain at home when there is a risk of family breakdown.	WBO 3 / Strategic Priority 1	1 st October 2022	31 st March 2023	C	This has been completed and there is now a multi-agency exploitation/ Edge of care team to support our most vulnerable young people. This is alongside 3 generic Child Protection Teams.
3	Continue to increase the support provided to Special Guardianship Order (SGO) carers within Newport.	Develop in house SGO support services. Explore kinship foster carers converting to SGO's	WBO 3 / Strategic Priority 1 WBO 3 / Strategic Priority 2 WBO 3 / Strategic Priority 4	1 st October 2022	30 th June 2025	20%	There have been some delays as support is offered through Barnardo's and the consultation process impacted upon the support offered. A new Team Manager has been recruited and once the new manager is in post this work will recommence.
4	Extend the Rapid Response team with an expanded evening and weekend crisis offer.	Number of families supported at point of crisis. Reduction in number of emergency placements. Bid to both Welsh Government and within NCC for resource to expand the Rapid Response team.	WBO 3 / Strategic Priority 1 WBO 3 / Strategic Priority 2 WBO 3 / Strategic Priority 4	1 st October 2022	30 th June 2023	0%	Welsh Government eliminate funding has been allocated and from 1st April this is being used to bolster the Rapid Response team with a dedicated therapeutic addition, a child sexual exploitation addition and a specialist Family Group Conference practitioner.

Ref	Action	Action Outcome(s)	Well-being Objective Supported	Start Date	Expected Completion Date	Q4 RAG Assessment / % Completion	Commentary
4	Extend the Rapid Response team with an expanded evening and weekend crisis offer.	Number of families supported at point of crisis. Reduction in number of emergency placements. Bid to both Welsh Government and within NCC for resource to expand the Rapid Response team.	WBO 3 / Strategic Priority 1 WBO 3 / Strategic Priority 2 WBO 3 / Strategic Priority 4	1 st October 2022	30 th June 2023	0%	There will also be a dedicated pathway for Rapid Response families to ensure that a longer term intervention is provided where needed. This additionality has expanded the offer and will be reviewed to consider whether an extended out of hours offer is also needed.
5	Complete the embedding of MyST with all our teams.	Number of children supported by MyST to return home or to foster care from residential care. Continue to work with MyST and the expansion of the team.	WBO 3 / Strategic Priority 1 WBO 3 / Strategic Priority 2	1 st October 2022	30 th June 2024	40%	The MyST Service continues to provide invaluable support they attend team meetings to remind staff of their remit. With changes in staff in the teams this is a continuous cycle to ensure that knowledge and awareness of the support is in place.
6	Work with partner agencies on a shared understanding and approach to risk of significant harm.	Reduction in number of older children being escalated for "secure" care.	WBO 3 / Strategic Priority 2 WBO 3 / Strategic Priority 4	1 st October 2022	30 th June 2024	50%	The contextual safeguarding pilot has now had agreement via Safer Newport - the overarching governance structure. The next steps are to roll out the contextual safeguarding operational group which is due to be implemented by the end of April/beginning of May. Furthermore, a set chair role has been developed alongside Education Safeguarding to facilitate all CE meetings going forward. Very recently an application to the Youth Endowment Fund has been made to see if Newport can increase its safeguarding response to local communities where CYP are exposed to the potential for serious violence.

Ref	Action	Action Outcome(s)	Well-being Objective Supported	Start Date	Expected Completion Date	Q4 RAG Assessment / % Completion	Commentary
6	Work with partner agencies on a shared understanding and approach to risk of significant harm.	Reduction in number of older children being escalated for "secure" care.	WBO 3 / Strategic Priority 2 WBO 3 / Strategic Priority 4	1 st October 2022	30 th June 2024	50%	This is the first stage of the funding application and the funding may not be guaranteed.
7	Extend the exploitation social worker offer in order to manage risk and support young people.	Reduction in the number of high-cost placements and children being escalated into residential and secure care by earlier prevention and intervention in relation to exploitation. Resource is already in place but further work to be undertaken to expand this resource and develop the service offer to consider and respond to contextual risks and the broader remit of contextual safeguarding.	WBO 3 / Strategic Priority 1 WBO 3 / Strategic Priority 2 WBO 3 / Strategic Priority 4	1 st October 2022	30 th June 2024	C	The Child Protection Team 1 has now been established into an Edge of Care/Exploitation Team. They are working closely with Barnardos, Police and Youth Justice Service to support our young people. The team is also part of the contextual safeguarding working group and have close links with multi agency partners.
8	Develop increased opportunities for disabled children and their families to share quality time together. Develop group activities, build on skills in order to support wellbeing to prevent family breakdown.	Work in partnership with parents and partner agencies to develop collaborative opportunities for disabled children. Develop self-help groups, peer to peer support and direct/online training.	WBO 3 / Strategic Priority 1 WBO 3 / Strategic Priority 2	1 st October 2022	30 th June 2024	70%	Welsh Government funding is now in place to build on the pilot groups and activities set up. Recruitment of 3 Social Work Assistants to focus on this is underway and the Team Manager of DCT is being seconded for 6 months to set up the preventative arm of the team from 1st April. Funding is also being allocated to Newport Live to provide a sports disability offer linking in with the regional lead and the project team within the disabled Childrens' team to increase opportunities for children and young people with disabilities and their families.

Objective 2 - Improve outcomes for children in care and care leavers including a focus on safe reunification						Objective 2 End of Year Assessment	
Ref	Action	Action Outcome(s)	Well-being Objective Supported	Start Date	Expected Completion Date	Q4 RAG Assessment / % Completion	Commentary
1	Increased housing options for care leavers. Currently Newport has a limited range of choices for housing for care leavers especially with a range of suitable support. This action will seek to address this gap. Work has already commenced and will continue.	All actions in this section will contribute to improving outcomes for children in care and care leavers.	WBO 3 / Strategic Priority 1 WBO 3 / Strategic Priority 2	1 st April 2021	31 st March 2024	15%	Increase in D2 provision (Care Provider) has been implemented. Increase in George Street capacity by booking an additional block booked room. One property has also been agreed to provide more capacity for care leavers. Plans are underway to source and acquire a further care leaver property. Business plan is being developed by Llamau to look at developing supported lodgings and enhanced supported lodgings.
2	Continue to develop a range of options for CLA to engage in work experience and have the offer of a mentor.	To improve opportunities of successful employment To explore traineeships and apprenticeship offer within the local authority	WBO 1 / Strategic Priority 6 WBO 3 / Strategic Priority 4	1 st April 2021	31 st March 2024	5%	Site visit to Merthyr in April 2023 to consider their employment based scheme and establish of any good practice can be shared with the Newport. Discussed preliminary objective at the last corporate parenting board in March 2023. Meeting to be set up to agree an action plan to develop this objective and identify who is best to support it.
3	Continue to work with the Pathway Service and stakeholders to ensure that all Children Looked After (CLA) are offered opportunities to develop independent living skills to ensure that young people transition	To ensure sustainable tenancies and provide CLA 15+ with the skills, experience and knowledge to help them prepare for independent living.	WBO 3 / Strategic Priority 2	1 st April 2021	31 st March 2024	30%	Work is underway develop more provision for YP from 16+ to develop their independence living skills. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The development of the independent living skills booklet. • Redeveloping the Young Persons Advisor role within community based settings.

Ref	Action	Action Outcome(s)	Well-being Objective Supported	Start Date	Expected Completion Date	Q4 RAG Assessment / % Completion	Commentary
3	Continue to work with the Pathway Service and stakeholders to ensure that all Children Looked After are offered opportunities to develop independent living skills to ensure that young people transition into independent living successfully.	To ensure sustainable tenancies and provide CLA 15+ with the skills, experience and knowledge to help them prepare for independent living.	WBO 3 / Strategic Priority 2	1 st April 2021	31 st March 2024	30%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developing more accommodation which facilitates improved transition. Strengthening the process of Independent Living Panel (ILP) - more robust oversight at 16 to consider ILP and care planning at the right time which will ensure YP's needs are being considered and any barriers to transition are being worked through promptly and in a timely manner
4	Develop Young Persons Accommodation Pathway in conjunction with housing and Housing Support Grant (HSG).	To create an effective accommodation pathway which provides a range of accommodation options and a robust mechanism to identify the right provision - Task and Finish group to be set up to help facilitate this work. To create a framework for commissioning the appropriate accommodating for our CLA, 16+ and Unaccompanied Asylum Seeker Children (UASC). Development of the transition training flat service. Development of the Joint housing strategy	WBO 3 / Strategic Priority 2 WBO 3 / Strategic Priority 6	1 st October 2022	31 st March 2025	10%	<p>Joint partnership meeting has taken place with housing, HSG and Children & Young People's Services to develop the Newport Accommodation Pathway. A draft has been developed which is currently being finalised and will then need to be ratified.</p> <p>Work is underway to develop a young person's version.</p>

Ref	Action	Action Outcome(s)	Well-being Objective Supported	Start Date	Expected Completion Date	Q4 RAG Assessment / % Completion	Commentary
5	Develop our participation and co-production offer for CLA and Care Leavers.	To ensure that CLA and Care Leavers have an active voice in shaping, designing and commissioning their services. To promote the development of a Children Young People (CYP) forum for CLA, Care Leavers, UASC and those CYP known to the Youth Justice Service.	WBO 3 / Strategic Priority 1 WBO 3 / Strategic Priority 2	1 st October 2022	31 st March 2025	5%	Participation and co production champions have been identified in the service. The next step is to commence the CYP participation and coproduction working group. CYP routinely attend corporate parenting board to provide feedback to the board. This is an area that continues to need developing further.

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

Objective 3 End of Year Assessment

Ref	Action	Action Outcome(s)	Well-being Objective Supported	Start Date	Expected Completion Date	Q4 RAG Assessment / % Completion	Commentary
1	To use WG funding to develop a family centre resource to promote families remaining together.	To Promote Families to remain together and reducing the amount of Children Looked After (CLA).	WBO 3 / Strategic Priority 1	1 st March 2023	31 st March 2024	85%	With the WG funding we have been able to secure additional monies to support the radical reform of the Cwtch Family Centre. We are looking at developing the centre as a hub of the community for our families. Ensuring that their family time is interactive and person centred, whilst promoting strengths. We have created an additional 3 posts to support the assessment element of the Family Centre and are interviewing next week.
2	Increase the proportion of foster care provision within Newport.	<p>Number of foster carers residing within the Local Authority area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of CLA in foster placements within the Local Authority. • Target reduction in the number of foster placements provided out of area. • Review and improve foster care recruitment strategy. • Explore opportunities for regional commissioning for specialist area. 	<p>WBO 3 / Strategic Priority 1</p> <p>WBO 3 / Strategic Priority 2</p>	1 st October 2022	31 st August 2024	35%	This work remains ongoing with links to Foster Wales. Work continues within the team on a local basis and grant funding has been granted to help promote recruitment.

Ref	Action	Action Outcome(s)	Well-being Objective Supported	Start Date	Expected Completion Date	Q4 RAG Assessment / % Completion	Commentary
3	Agreement on viability or not of a scheme for fostering for parent and child placements. Briefing between fostering and Baby and Me.	Complete the work to scope developing parent and child placements.	WBO 3 / Strategic Priority 2	1 st October 2022	31 st March 2023	C	Viability for a PAC scheme agreed by the region- Issues to be resolved such as payment structure continue. Paperwork is currently being signed off and developed as an iterative process. Carers to be recruited to the scheme however this will be a lengthy process due to recruitment pressures.
4	Focus on developing specialist fostering placements with psychological support.	Increase in availability of placements for older children. Campaign work with Foster Wales and Regional Development Manager.	WBO 3 / Strategic Priority 2	1 st October 2022	30 th April 2023	50%	This links to MyST. There is work underway to recruit foster carers for MyST; however, this is a challenge due to recruitment challenges across Wales. MyST continues to offer support to carers and offers specialist trainings. The removal of a part time consultant social worker post means that training will need to be reconsidered as it can no longer be offered inhouse. Links are being made with the workforce team.

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

Objective 4 End of Year Assessment

Ref	Action	Action Outcome(s)	Well-being Objective Supported	Start Date	Expected Completion Date	Q4 RAG Assessment / % Completion	Commentary
1	Further develop the support provided by the Youth Justice Service (YJS) incorporating robust early intervention and prevention work; and future service transformation work.	Holistic and timely support is available to all children accessing the service from a multi-agency team, and built into their intervention plans.	WBO 3 / Strategic Priority 4 WBO 4 / Strategic Priority 7	1 st April 2021	31 st March 2024	60%	<p>The development of the Turnaround offer has resulted in a strong early help offer. This has been in place since December 2022 and there is clear evidence of an increase in referrals. We are currently recruiting for two posts and expect to see the service strengthen and develop further. A recent engagement event took place which involved multi-agency partners and this offer has been received well.</p> <p>PPE Vanguard review is due to take place in April/May and this will help the service to develop a multiagency response to prevention and early intervention.</p> <p>The development of the new prevention asset is nearly completed (currently being trialled). this will result in more robust assessments and plans and help support the delivery of our early prevention offer.</p> <p>The acquisition of a YJS minibus will also help to provide interventions and transport to YJS activities when needed.</p>

Ref	Action	Action Outcome(s)	Well-being Objective Supported	Start Date	Expected Completion Date	Q4 RAG Assessment / % Completion	Commentary
2	Acquisition of new YJS intervention hub – to promote multiagency working through early prevention and intervention work.	To facilitate and provide CYP open to the YJS receive quality preventions and interventions from a range of different areas including alternative education and accredit qualifications and life skills.	WBO 3 / Strategic Priority 4 WBO 4 / Strategic Priority 7	1 st October 2022	31 st March 2025	5%	Work is underway to develop a joint partnership with Education partners to create a joint YJS and Education Hwb. Key actions to take forward: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify if there is an existing asset that YJS and Education could use - Jay McCabe has spoken to Caroline Ryan-Phillips who will raise this at the next asset rationalisation panel. • Service Manager to complete exec report to request permission from exec board to go ahead with the project and acquisition of the building. The initial plan will be to request RIF funding to undertake a viability once exec board agrees the project in principal.
3	Develop our participation and co-production offer for all CYP known to the YJS.	Development of volunteers – to include service users. Develop Participation and engagement with services. Ethnically diverse groups. Enable and facilitate service development through co-production with CYP.	WBO 3 / Strategic Priority 4 WBO 4 / Strategic Priority 7	1 st October 2022	31 st March 2024	5%	Work is underway and participation champions have been identified within the service. Service user voice is now a key part of our strategic board reporting. We routinely invite CYP to feedback to the board to help them about their experiences of the service. We aim to increase this offer by developing a young person rep at the board - this is part of the longer term plan.

Performance Measures

Children Services performance measures are taken from the Welsh Government Social Services Performance Framework. No targets will be set for these measures. Previous years data for will be used as a 'comparator' to enable monitoring and reporting.

Performance Measure / Description	Reporting Frequency (Quarterly / Half-yearly / Annual)	Actual 2020/21	Actual 2021/22	Actual 2022/23
National CH001- The number of contacts for children received by statutory Social Services during the year.	Quarterly	10,104	11,311	11,024
National CH/005b- The number where physical punishment by a parent or carer was the only factor	Quarterly	144	85	119
National CH/015- The total number of children with a care and support plan at 31 st March	Quarterly	978	945	978
National CH/026- The total number of children on the child protection register at 31 st March.	Quarterly	158	127	135
National CH/033- The total number of reports of child exploitation received during the year	Quarterly	62	122	141
National CH/036- The total number of children removed (de-registered) from the child protection register in the last 12 months	Quarterly	148	207	201
National CH/037- The number of children becoming looked after during the year.	Quarterly	91	166	122
National CH/039 - The number of children looked after at 31 st March.	Quarterly	378	372	376
Local CH/L002- The number of children who ceased being looked after during the year.	Quarterly	92	120	113
National CH/043- The total number of children looked after at 31 st March who have experienced three or more placements during the year.	Quarterly	26	50	34
National CH/045 - The total number of children who returned home during the year	Quarterly	36	33	49
National CA/011 - The total number of contacts to statutory social services by young carers or professionals contacting the service on their behalf received during the year. Provided by Barnardos	Quarterly	74	127	111
National CH/L004 - Number of Childrens Residential Fostering Beds	Quarterly	20	22	24
National CH/L005 - Number of Children in care proceedings during the year	Quarterly	44	56	73

Performance Measure / Description	Reporting Frequency (Quarterly / Half-yearly / Annual)	Actual 2020/21	Actual 2021/22	Actual 2022/23	Target 2022/23	Commentary
Total Number of first Time Entrants	Quarterly	38	13	23	20	Less is better as we would want to see a reduction in first time entrants' and have diverted them to other services or earlier engagement and prevention
(New) % of cases open to the YJS on a prevention basis	Quarterly	46.3%	66.4%	67.2% (225 / 335)	80%	More is better as we would want to see higher levels of cases receiving preventative services.
(New) % of cases open to the YJS on an out of court disposals	Quarterly	38.3%	24.1%	23.3% (78 / 335)	80%	Whilst we would want to see a reduction in out of court disposals, on the whole, this is a preferred option instead of a statutory order. Target will be reviewed as part of the service area 23/24 review.
(New) % of cases open to the YJS on a statutory order	Quarterly	15.1%	8.8%	8.7% (29 / 335)	38%	Less is better as we would want to reduce the amount of statutory orders cases. Target will be reviewed as part of the service area 23/24 review.
(New) % of cases on remand	Quarterly	0.4%	0.7%	0.9% (3 / 335)	1%	Less is better as we would want to have no remands cases where possible Target will be reviewed as part of the service area 23/24 review.
(New) % of cases re-offending (re-offending rates)	Quarterly	19.3%	8.9%	3.6% (12 / 335)	25%	Less is better as we would want to see numbers of re-offending cases to be as low as possible Target will be reviewed as part of the service area 23/24 review.
(New) % of cases open to the service with Criminal Exploitation (CE) /Criminal Sexual Exploitation (CSE)	Quarterly	27%	29.5%	14.6% (49 / 335)	Baseline Year	Less is better as we would want to see a reduction in CE or CSE cases. Target will be set for 2023/24.

Glossary

Service Area Project / Action Assessment

RAG Status	Description
X%	Project / Action is not on track to deliver with major issues preventing the action being completed by the agreed ' <i>Target Date</i> '. Immediate management interventions is required to improve performance and escalation to Directorate Management Team and/or relevant Board.
X%	Project / Action is mainly on track with some minor issues which could prevent the Project / Action being completed by the agreed ' <i>Target Date</i> '. Management intervention(s) required to improve performance and close monitoring by the Head of Service / Service Management Team.
X%	Project / Action is on track to be completed by the Agreed ' <i>Target Date</i> '.
C	Project / Action has been successfully delivered

Performance Measure Monitoring / Tolerance Assessment

Newport City Council has agreed a 15% tolerance against targets set in service plans.

RAG Status	Description
=>15%	Performance is under achieving against Target or previous year's performance. Immediate management intervention and escalation to Directorate Management Board is required.
<15%	Performance is off target or Previous Year's Performance but within a variance of 15%. Management intervention and close monitoring by the Head of Service / Service Management Team is required.
	Performance is achieving / succeeding against its agreed Target or Previous Year's Performance.

Risk Assessment Matrix

Probability	5	5 - Moderate	10 - Major	15 - Severe	20 - Severe	25 - Severe
	4	4 - Moderate	8 - Moderate	12 - Major	16 - Severe	20 - Severe
	3	3 - Low	6 - Moderate	9 Major	12 - Major	15 - Severe
	2	2 - Low	4 - Moderate	6 - Moderate	8 - Moderate	10 Major
	1	1 - Very Low	2 - Low	3 - Low	4 - Moderate	5 - Moderate
		1	2	3	4	5
		Impact				

Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Description
CIW	Care Inspectorate Wales
CLA	Children Looked After
IDVA	Independent Domestic Violence Advocates
MyST	My Support Team (multi-agency partnership) support team
UASC	Unaccompanied Asylum Seeker Children
VAWDASV	Violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence
WG	Welsh Government