

# Education, Children and Families

10am, Tuesday, 1 March 2016

## Support to Children and Young People with Disabilities: Annual Progress Report

Item number	7.10
Report number	
Executive/routine	
Wards	All

### Executive Summary

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In September 2014, the [annual report on Support to Children and Young People with Disabilities](#) provided an overview on performance and planning in relation to support to families who have a child with a disability. This report is to update the Committee on the progress over the last eighteen months.

### Links

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Coalition pledges	<a href="#">P1</a>
Council outcomes	<a href="#">CO1, CO3</a>
Single Outcome Agreement	<a href="#">SO3</a>

## Support to Children and Young People with Disabilities - Annual Progress

### 1. Recommendations

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- 1.1 Note the progress made within social work services for children and young people with disabilities.
- 1.2 Requests a further report on progress in March 2017.

### 2. Background

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- 2.1 The legislative base for the current provision of services for children and families affected by disability is underpinned by the [Children \(Scotland\) Act 1995](#) to:
  - 2.1.1 Minimise the effect on a disabled child within the authority's area;
  - 2.1.2 Give these children the opportunity to lead lives as normal as possible;
  - 2.1.3 Carry out an assessment of the child/young person and family.
- 2.2 The [Social Care \(Self-directed Support\) \(Scotland\) Act 2013](#) came into effect on 1 April 2014, and enshrines the Scottish Government's strategy for self-directed support (SDS) in legislation and places a number of duties on local authorities.
- 2.3 Self-directed support gives those children and their families who are eligible, control over a personal budget and allows them to choose how it is spent on support which meets their identified needs and agreed outcomes.
- 2.4 Self-directed support offers four options for getting support. The person's individual budget can be:
  - 2.4.1 Option1: taken as a direct payment (a cash payment);
  - 2.4.2 Option2: allocated to a provider the individual chooses. The council or funder holds the budget but the person is in charge of how it is spent (this is sometimes called an individual service fund);
  - 2.4.3 Option 3: the individual can choose a council arranged service;
  - 2.4.4 Option4: the individual can choose a mix of these options for different types of support.

- 2.5 The [Children and Young People \(Scotland\) Act 2014](#) will provide further legislative support to this work by focussing on improving outcomes through earlier support and joined up services.
- 2.6 Edinburgh's population is rapidly increasing compared to the rest of Scotland. By 2020 the number of children under 16, is set to rise by 16%, compared to 5% nationally.\* Therefore depending on whether the definition used to define disability is within the Equality Act 2010, or relates to their additional support or social and emotional needs, then presently between 4,000-15,500 children or 5%-19%, (0-17) will have some type of disability.

\*Care Inspectorate-Services for Children and Young People in the City of Edinburgh, 29 April 2014.

### 3. Main report

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#### Self-directed Support

- 3.1 The [Social Care \(Self-directed Support\) \(Scotland\) Act 2013](#) came into effect on 1 April 2013. A report on the [Progress on the Implementation of Self-directed Support in Children and Families](#) was presented to the Education, Children and Families Committee on 19 May 2015, in which it was asked to:
- 3.1.1 Note the progress being made in implementing the requirements of the National Strategy for Self-directed Support and the Social Care (Self-directed Support) (Scotland) Act 2013, in respect of children and; families;
- 3.1.2 Identify the issues that they would like to see covered in future reports concerning the implementation of self-directed support.
- 3.2 The City of Edinburgh Council Children with Disabilities Team was in a position to meet the requirements of the legislation for all new referrals from 1 April 2014 with the implementation of a new Funding Allocation System. However, given the scale of the change involved and the transformational nature of that change, the arrangements put in place need to be reviewed and revised in the light of experience, monitoring and evaluation. 1 April 2014 should therefore be seen as the start of implementation, rather than the point at which implementation is completed.
- 3.3 Disabled children, young people and their families who are eligible for self-directed support now have an outcome focused assessment, are offered an indicative budget according to their level of need, and have as much involvement as they wish in the planning, arranging and managing of supports to meet their needs and agreed outcomes.
- 3.4 As of 1 December 2015:
- 3.4.1 169 children have been assessed under the new self-directed support processes;

- 3.4.2 133 out of the 169 have had a personal budget approved;
  - 3.4.3 Six cases have not been eligible for a personal budget;
  - 3.4.4 60 out of 133 have selected Option 1 only (Direct payment);
  - 3.4.5 22 out of 133 have selected Option 2 only (Family to choose the support and council to arrange it);
  - 3.4.6 22 out of 133 have selected Option 3 only (Council to choose and arrange the support);
  - 3.4.7 29 out of 133 have selected Option 4: (12 have selected Options 1 and 3; six have selected Options 1 and 2; eight have selected Options 1, 2 and 3; and three have selected Options 2 and 3);
  - 3.4.8 The number of children and families receiving a direct payment as of 31 March 14 (the eve of the implementation of the legislation) was 32. The number of children and families taking Option1 (a direct payment) to deliver all or part of their support plan as of 1 December 2015 was 86. This is a 168% increase;
  - 3.4.9 Six children have been reviewed and are into their second year of having a personal budget.
- 3.5 An initial evaluation of our implementation of self-directed support took place in August 2015. 18 families with 21 children were interviewed who had had a personal budget for more than six months. Personal budgets ranged from £649 to £8840.
- 3.6 Specific set questions about the process and the outcomes for their child(ren) were asked to each parent, and scored from 5 to 1 (5 being very true- 1 being false).
- 3.7 One overarching question generated a very positive response:

Outcomes for your child				
Overall is the Personal Budget making a positive difference to your child's life? (5 being very true – 1 being false)				
5 - 62%	4 - 28%	3 - 5%	2 - 0%	1 - 5%

- 3.8 Parents were also asked open questions on 'What worked well?' and 'What hasn't worked well?' A sample of the responses can be read in appendix 1.
- 3.9 The Children with Disability Team has a Key Performance Indicator in place which stipulates that all 236 existing service users will have been transferred to one of the four options of self-directed support within a period of three years from the implementation of the Social Care (Self-directed Support) (Scotland) Act 2013.
- 3.10 As of November 2015 the figure was at 33%. The target is 100% of all children, who have been assessed, to have an SDS Support Plan in place by April 2017.
- 3.11 The implementation of self-directed support will continue to have a significant impact on the shape of the social care market over time. Whilst it is difficult to predict the pace of change, the fact that the National Self-directed Support Strategy

covers a 10 year period is an indicator that change is expected to be incremental, rather than immediate. However, it is important to ensure that mechanisms are in place to respond to the change required in a planned way.

- 3.12 The introduction of the four options of self-directed support and the concept of personal budgets marks a move away from a service-led approach based on allocations of hours and nights to a more flexible notion of support where the currency is the amount of an individual's personal budget. As no new money is available to support this change, the Council needs to ensure that it is in a position to free resources tied up in existing services in order to be in a position to respond positively to those individuals who wish to use the resources available for their support in different ways.
- 3.13 The Council is currently addressing this by moving from a number of block contracts to spot purchase arrangements and by reviewing its own services.
- 3.14 The Scottish Government has provided limited funds to assist with the implementation of the legislation.
- 3.15 Some of these monies have been used to develop pilot services called the 'Drop In' and 'Fabb Flex'.
- 3.16 The Drop In offers city-wide fun-filled activity bases for families with a disabled child aged 0-18 years old and their siblings who live in Edinburgh. It takes place in four local community centres across Edinburgh every Saturday and is run in partnership by the City of Edinburgh Council Community Education staff and FABB.
- 3.17 This started as a pilot in October 2014 with the desired outcome being for children and their families to meet other people in their local community, become more integrated and build relationships and friendships. Around 60 families have used the Drop In facilities on a regular basis.
- 3.18 Some of the feedback from the children who use the Drop In is as follows:
  - 3.18.1 "Will this be on when I am forty? I want to bring my wife and children to it when I am older";
  - 3.18.2 "I can come here with my sister. It's the only group that allows that";
  - 3.18.3 "Because it's on a Saturday and it gives me somewhere to go and play and my mummy can be with me. I get to play with people";
  - 3.18.4 "It is my chance to be myself and enjoy myself with my friends".
- 3.19 Some of the feedback from the parents who use the Drop-In is as follows:
  - 3.19.1 "My child is frightened of the gym hall at school as it is noisy and chaotic but the Drop In has giving him the opportunity to play in the gym hall without any pressure or fear. Since attending the Drop In the school have reported an improvement and advised us that he will now sit in the gym hall and watch the other children. This is actually a huge improvement as he wouldn't even enter the hall before";

- 3.19.2 “Kids have lots of fun and the adults can have a chat. Kids have made good friends at the group and outwith the group. The workers are great”;
- 3.19.3 “My child has really grown in confidence”;
- 3.19.4 “Good to have a safe place for my children to play and meet other parents.”
- 3.20 FABB Flex is a third sector flexible mentoring service for young people with additional support needs. Initially young people meet in a small group setting to get to know each other, explore their interests and possible mainstream groups and clubs. They are then mentored into the club of their choice. The mentor is on hand for up to 20 weeks and will slowly withdraw support and will also provide any training or guidance to the mainstream provider.
- 3.21 FABB Flex started in January 2015 as a one year pilot. 47 children had been supported in the first 10 months ranging from 8-17 years old. 11 of these children are now independently engaged in their chosen activity. 22 are still engaged with support. Examples of activities have included going to the Gym, Scouts, a cycling club, a pipe band, a film club, animation workshops, and playing golf.
- 3.22 Some of the parents’ feedback on FABB Flex has been as follows:
  - 3.22.1 “My son is enjoying the bike club, a little reticent to make friends, but being part of the group is good and he is gaining confidence and skills. Many thanks again for introducing us to the group and we will keep in touch”;
  - 3.22.2 “They both had a great time. My son was telling me he had had a good workout and was knackered so that’s good. He is looking forward to next week. He loves his independence”;
  - 3.22.3 “The gym is going really well and he loves it. He has even started to be more conscious about his eating and has started to lose a little weight – we are all delighted.”
- 3.23 One of the young people who used FABB Flex stated: “I liked having a mentor as she made us laugh and kept us right. The group sessions were okay. I wanted to go to the gym by myself. I like working out with my friend.”

### **Disability Practice Team**

- 3.24 The current staffing establishment - Full-Time Equivalent - (FTE) within the Disability Practice Team consists of 1 Manager; 2 full-time Team Leaders; 4 senior practitioners, 2 social work assistants and 5.5 FTE social workers. There is also a FTE temporary Local Area Co-ordinator post which ends in 2016. Over the last year there has been 2 additional staff in the team on secondment basis, but these have now ended.
- 3.25 The Disability Practice Team undertakes assessments, child’s plans and other statutory duties relating to disabled children. The Practice Team based at Royal Hospital for Sick Children (RHSC) also provides a similar service to children affected by disability alongside other aspects of hospital based social work . The current caseload\* for both teams consists of:

	<b>Disability Practice Team</b>	<b>RHSC Practice Team</b>
Caseload	411	137
Allocated cases	249 (60%)	137 (100%)
Unallocated cases awaiting assessment with no current service	13 (3%)	0
Unallocated Cases who have had an assessment and are receiving a package of support	149 (36%)	0
On Child Protection Register	6 (1%)	11(8%)
Looked After and Accommodated Children	29 (7%)	25(18%)
Looked After Children at Home	10 (2%)	0

\*Figures as of January 2016

- 3.26 There continues to be an increasing number of requests for Section 23 assessments from both families and professionals. There was a request for 78 Section 23 assessments in the year 2015.
- 3.27 The number of children awaiting a Section 23 assessment in January 2016 is 20.
- 3.28 Once a review or an assessment has been completed and there are no further tasks required at that time, the Disability Practice Team will usually de-allocate the case from the individual social worker but keep it open to the team in order to annually review whatever package of support has been put in place. The majority of the unallocated cases will have supports arranged for the child and family and if these are working well, they only need to be reviewed on an annual basis. All children and families open to the Disability Team have access to the duty system.
- 3.29 The statutory guidance to accompany the self-directed support legislation states that the authority should aim to conduct reviews within a maximum period of 12 months in order to review each child's plan, and associated spend and outcomes.

The system described in 3.28 allows this to occur in all cases, whether or not they have an allocated social worker.

- 3.30 In order to complete the annual reviews, a Section 23 Review form has been designed and provides a shorter, outcome focussed assessment.
- 3.31 In order to assess the changing eligible needs and outcomes as children grow, the practice team are completing comprehensive Section 23 assessments at key stages of the child's life; at ages seven, 12 and 16.
- 3.32 In light of the new legislative duties of The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 and the Social Care (Self-directed Support) (Scotland) Act 2013, the disabled child's pathway for assessment and planning is currently being reviewed. The focus will be assisting children with a disability to enjoy their childhood, and achieve their potential, using the same Getting it Right for Every Child wellbeing (SHANARRI) outcome-focussed assessment processes as for all children in need. This will produce a greater emphasis on collaborative and multi-agency planning from the start through child's planning meetings, and focussing on early intervention and prevention thus leading to a proportional approach to assessment and planning.

#### **Transition Procedure**

- 3.33 The Disability and Hospital Teams work closely with the Health and Social Care Transition Team to move young people on from children to adult supports. Further work is being progressed in looking at how we can earlier identify young people who will require a substantial package of care into adulthood. In light of the implementation of self-directed support, the current jointly owned transition policy and procedures are also in the final stages of being reviewed and will be separately reported to committee.

#### **Challenges**

- 3.34 There is rising demand relating to the needs of young people with autism and those with a learning disability. The increase in playscheme support has been very helpful for most families but we still have a small but significant number of young people who require a high level of residential and day specialised support in the school holidays.
- 3.35 Many children with complex physical needs are now looked after at home. This population has increased due to advances in medical care. The children may need careful monitoring with interventions such as tracheotomy care, suction, catheterisation or tube feeding. The children benefit from being at home rather than hospital but the pressure on their parents/carers alongside family life can be considerable. Families will often ask for services to support them with the individual personal care needs their child may have in the morning or evening. The growth in demand in this area has added financial pressure to the Council services. This has led to an increased demand on the Council services and there is a lack of external organisations willing and able to provide this kind of support. East, Mid and West



Lothian Councils report a similar position and this has led to discussions with NHS Lothian to consider a joint approach to this demand.

### **Organisational and Service Reviews**

- 3.36 The review of the Children and Families Occupational Therapy Team has now been completed. As a result, the Early Years Centre Occupational Therapy Service was transferred to NHS on 1 October 2015 under a 3 year service level agreement. The Community Occupational Therapy Service moved to the Disability Section of Health and Social Care on 1 April 2014.
- 3.37 An organisational review of Family Focus & Kidz Own began in June 2014 and has now been completed. The aim of this review was to address what changes need to be made to deliver greater choice and value for money, to children and their families as well as protecting a proportion of the service for children subject to child welfare and child protection concerns or families in crisis. Consideration has also been given on how these services will be delivered in the future, in line with the implementation of the Social Care (Self-directed Support)(Scotland) Act 2013.
- 3.38 The views of staff, stakeholders and families, children and young people have been sought on how we can deliver the best possible services to our families, efficiently and cost effectively. An Equalities Right and Impact Assessment has also been carried out.
- 3.39 The result of this organisational review has seen a merger of the management and staff of the two services to produce a new integrated service sitting within Disability Family Support Services.
- 3.40 A review of the Central Disability Team based at Waverley Court is currently in progress due to the wider Council Transformational Change Programme and the impact of both self-directed support and procurement legislation on the workload of the team. This review should be completed by April 2016.

### **Disability Family Support Services**

- 3.41 Disability Family Support Services are continuing to be developed to offer a range of flexible supports to children and their families, as well as crisis and time limited intensive interventions where the need is required.
- 3.42 The Service started on the 25 May 2014, consisting of three Social Care Workers who provided a city wide, seven day support service from 7am to 9pm. It offered families crisis support in the home or in the community for between 6-12 weeks in order to avoid more intrusive interventions such as accommodation of children due to child welfare concerns, parent/carer sudden illness, exhaustion or rehabilitation to home from care settings.
- 3.43 The social care service supported 75 families in 2015.
- 3.44 Kidzown and Family Focus (now also known as Disability Family Support Services following the review) offer a monthly weekend club for children up to 10 years old alongwith more intensive support in the home and community to families. 44 children attended the weekend club on a monthly basis during 2015, and the

current number of children attending is 33. The outreach service worked with 29 families last year. It is currently working with 16 families and is in the process of recruiting additional workers to fill the current vacancies.

### **Disability Behaviour Support Service**

- 3.45 The Disability Behaviour Support Service was established in February 2014 with two years' funding from the Early Years Change Fund. It comprises of one 0.5FTE Manager and two FTE Project Workers. It offers up to 12 weeks' support with families who have a disabled child aged between 4-16 years old.
- 3.46 The service has worked alongside Barnardo's Intensive Behaviour Support Service and CAMHS for the past two years. The service provides practical strategies for parents/carers in managing their child's behaviour. Behaviours may include; being aggressive to parents/carers and their siblings, destruction of property, being a danger to themselves, challenging behaviour due to a lack of ability to communicate/understand and difficulties engaging/playing with siblings. The purpose is to skill build, enhance familial relationships and reframe issues identified by the family to increase family functioning.
- 3.47 The project often works with families who are in or are approaching crisis, and where their ability to continue to parent and look after their child safely is being seriously compromised by the child's presenting behaviours due to their additional needs. The project currently builds capacity and understanding within families and thus reduces the need for ongoing intervention, facilitating and enabling disabled children to remain at home with their families and avoiding more intensive and high cost interventions.
- 3.48 The work is predominantly home-based, short-term and intensive and involves working with the family at times that are convenient and meaningful to them, in order to gain a more accurate understanding of family life and interaction which is found within the family's natural environment.
- 3.49 29 families were receiving support between 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015. All of the parents/carers were asked to complete a short self-evaluation both at the start and at the end of the short-term intervention, and the results were as follows:
- 3.49.1 Parents/carers have improved confidence/resilience (15 families noted an improved score, three had no change and zero had a reduced score);
- 3.49.2 Parents/carers have reduced stress (12 families noted an improved score, six had no change and zero had a reduced score);
- 3.49.3 Children and young people and their families have improved relationships (16 families noted an improved score, one had no change and one had a reduced score);
- 3.49.4 Parents/carers have an understanding of their child's disability (13 families noted an improved score, two had no change and three noted a reduced score).

**Barnardo’s Intensive Behavioural Support Service (BIBSS)**

- 3.50 As well as directly providing the above service, the City of Edinburgh Council continues to fund Barnardo's Intensive Behavioural Support Service (BIBSS). This started as a pilot between Barnardo’s, The Council and the NHS CAMHS Team back in 2011 and is currently purchased under a grant arrangement.
- 3.51 The BIBSS offers intensive early intervention support and practical strategies to families whose disabled child displays challenging behaviour at home. It has been effective in building capacity within families and reducing the need for more resource intensive supports.
- 3.52 The service area is currently undertaking a review to consider the best options for future service delivery, to ensure that families whose child requires intensive behavioural support, are supported in a meaningful and sustainable way. The review will be completed by the summer of 2016.
- 3.53 During the period April 2014 to 2015, Barnardo’s Intensive Behaviour Support Service worked with 23 children and their families. 18 of these children had learning disabilities and five had autism but no learning disability.

**Play schemes**

- 3.54 The Council, through the Early Years Change Fund, increased the funds available for play scheme provision for children with a disability from £456,000 in 2012/13 to £812,000 in 2013/14. This was in response to views expressed by families in Edinburgh who found the school holidays problematic. The response to the increase in funding has resulted in positive feedback from families in Edinburgh.
- 3.55 The contract for this new service was awarded to the INC Consortium which is made up of The Action Group, FABB Scotland, Lothian Autistic Society, Kidzcare Ltd and The Yard. The new provision enables us to offer up to six weeks of play scheme service per year to 400 eligible children. The six week allocation may include; venue based play scheme, a residential camp or activity days.
- 3.56 In year one of the new contract, 460 children and young people accessed the service. So far in year two (summer, October and December) 458 children and young people have accessed the service. Year three starts summer 2016.
- 3.57 INC Consortium undertook a satisfaction survey with all parents and carers whose child currently attends the play scheme service. The headline figures were:

	Rating Choice of :	%
	Very happy, Happy, OK, Not happy, Very unhappy	(no. of responses)
Overall how would you rate the service you and your child received from the INC Consortium play scheme?	Very happy or Happy	93% (100 out of 108)

Did the play scheme make positive differences to you and your child?	Very happy or Happy	93% (103 out of 110)
Did your child enjoy the activities that were offered?	Very happy or Happy	94% (101 out of 107)
Were the transport arrangements suitable for your needs?	Ok, Unhappy or Very unhappy	25% (26 out of 104)
Did our staff team communicate well with you?	Ok, Unhappy or Very unhappy	20% (22 out of 108)
How did you find our booking service?	Ok, Unhappy or Very unhappy	17% out of 111)

- 3.58 Clearly there are still areas for development and improvement. INC has established a Parents Reference Group and will raise any areas of concern and develop an action plan with them.
- 3.59 We continue to fund a small play scheme service for children with severe and significant behaviour issues at Action for Children. This provides a high staffing ratio for children who cannot function in a larger group setting.
- 3.60 We plan to recruit a Play scheme Co-ordinator to overview the day to day running and to link into the schools involved, so that good communication is shared about individual children's needs with the sector providers.
- 3.61 We plan to incorporate elements of the outcomes monitoring framework which are appropriate to the play scheme service.
- 3.62 A detailed lessons learned session involving the views of children and families will be held to monitor the delivery of the new contract and to consider possible improvements for any potential extension or retender of the contract.
- 3.63 The new national living wage increase planned for April 2016 for staff aged over 25 years will potentially have an impact on the play scheme service. The service area is awaiting legal guidance to confirm our role and responsibilities to non-statutory contracted services.
- 3.64 Edinburgh Leisure has delivered two family drop-in swimming sessions during Easter 2015 which three families accessed. Four sessions were planned for summer 2015 but were cancelled due to low uptake from families. Discussions are ongoing with Edinburgh Leisure to ensure appropriate marketing of the service.

### **Barnardo's Caern Short Breaks**

- 3.65 The City of Edinburgh Council has commissioned services with Barnardo's Caern Project since 2003. A Service Level Agreement was in place with Barnardo's between 2003 and 2005 for the value of £620,000 per annum to deliver a short breaks service to up to 25 young people and their families by providing outreach support and by means of Caern's respite unit.
- 3.66 For the financial year 2005-2006 the block contract value of the service was changed to £700,000 per annum. For the subsequent years from 2006 until 31st March 2015 the block contract value was £731,180 per annum. Barnardo's were commissioned to provide 30 to 35 placements per annum to disabled children who were assessed as eligible for short breaks away from their home.
- 3.67 Following the implementation of the self-directed support legislation, the Council entered into a more flexible one year contract with Barnardo's Caern Project for the year 2015-2016, to allow for potential reduction in provision due to families choosing to exercise self directed support options. The contract value reduced from £731,180 to £509,040 and Caern were commissioned to provide support to 34 children who were currently using Caern under this contract.
- 3.68 This contract has recently been reviewed and, to promote the continuity of care and support for the remaining 25 children who still use the service and are yet to be reassessed, this service is still considered to be required. A report has been submitted to the Finance and Resources Committee on 2 February 2016 to approve the extension of the "Short Residential Breaks at Caern" Contract for a total value not exceeding £650,000 to Barnardo's for ongoing provision of short breaks for the two year period from 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2018. This extension will allow continuity of service to the remaining 25 young people whilst plans are set up to review their current supports.

### **Hillview and Seaview**

- 3.69 The Council's five bedded residential resource, Hillview, which was used for families who require overnight crisis provision in Edinburgh closed in December 2015 due to property rationalisation and has since merged with Seaview. The majority of children who attended Hillview were there due to family breakdown/crisis because there was no other placement available to them in Edinburgh. Some children stayed for a short time and others for many complex reasons remained for between six months to two years until a permanent placement could be found.
- 3.70 Seaview continues to operate as a residential respite unit for forty children and currently has four children who have moved from Hillview and are staying on a full-time basis whilst longer-term plans are made for them. Seaview will combine short break residential breaks alongside crisis support placements in the future.

### **Strategic planning**

- 3.71 A strategic multi agency planning group for children with disabilities reports to the Children's Partnership. The vision is for our children and young people with a

disability to have improved life chances and the support required to fulfil their potential. We will do this by:

- 3.71.1 Leading the development of services and support which meet the needs of these children and young people in pre-school, education, care, health, leisure and family settings;
  - 3.71.2 Improving consistency in the quality and availability of provision;
  - 3.71.3 Establishing robust baseline information about the number of children and young people with disability, the range of disability and the services provided;
  - 3.71.4 Monitoring performance against our agreed objects and reporting back to the Children's Partnership.
- 3.72 The group is aiming to design a tool for seeking the views of families about their experience of services, in order to take these into account in our forward plans.

## **4. Measures of success**

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- 4.1 Meeting the requirements of the Social Care (Self-directed Support) (Scotland) Act 2013 which will be evidenced by:
  - 4.1.1 Compliance with the principles underpinning the legislation;
  - 4.1.2 The ability to offer people who are eligible for social care support, the four options as to how that support is organised and manage;
  - 4.1.3 The ability to notify people eligible for the four options of self-directed support of an estimate of the cost of meeting their care needs and support needs;
  - 4.1.4 The emergence of new types of services to meet care and support needs;
  - 4.1.5 All eligible children having a self-directed support plan by April 2017 from which to measure outcomes rather than outputs.
- 4.2 The Council achieving a reduction in the waiting times required for a Section 23 assessment.
- 4.3 Reducing the number of children with a disability having to become looked after and accommodated.

## **5. Financial impact**

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- 5.1 The implementation of self-directed support involves a shift in the way in which budgets for service delivery are allocated with the introduction of indicative budgets (estimates of the cost of meeting a person's eligible needs and agreed outcomes) and the right of individual services users to determine how those budgets are utilised

- 5.2 The implementation of self-directed support across Edinburgh is regarded by the Scottish Government as cost neutral. It will be necessary to monitor and calibrate the Funding Allocation System to meet the eligible needs of individuals within budget.

## **6. Risk, policy, compliance and governance impact**

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- 6.1 The implementation of the requirements of the Social Care (Self-directed Support) (Scotland) Act 2013 requires a change in the way in which support is currently provided to children, young people and families eligible for assistance. Rather than providing or arranging services to meet the assessed need, the Council is required to provide to families an estimate of the cost of meeting their social care needs and to then support them to exercise as much choice and control as they wish in meeting these needs, within the resources available. Over time this will lead to significant change in the range and types of services available.
- 6.2 The operation of the Funding Allocation System will be closely monitored to evaluate the following factors:
- 6.2.1 The Funding Allocation System is sufficiently flexible to be adjusted in response to issues identified through experience in operating the system;
  - 6.2.2 The Funding Allocation System is calibrated in order both to meet the needs of individuals and remain affordable to the Council.
- 6.3 The number of families choosing to take a Direct Payment has increased by over 150% since self-directed support has been implemented. The current Direct Payment Policy and Procedure is currently being reviewed. It is the plan to roll out training sessions to practitioners in order to satisfy the Council that Direct Payment Regulations and the policy and procedure are known to, and adhered by practitioners.

## **7. Equalities impact**

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- 7.1 The fundamental principles of self-directed support are choice and control, enabling people to choose how to live their life and have control over the way in which their care needs are met. The Social Care (Self-directed Support) (Scotland) Act 2013 seeks to ensure that the principles of human rights and equality are central to the delivery of social care by placing a duty on local authorities to have regard to inclusion, collaboration and dignity when carrying out their duties. This report gives some detail to the manner in which it is proposed that these principles are embedded in Edinburgh.
- 7.2 There is an overall Equality Rights Impact Assessment (ERIA) which has been completed in respect of the Personalisation Programme. An overall Equality Rights Impact Assessment has also been completed for the completed review of the Children and Families Occupational Therapy Team; the organisational review of

Kidz Own and Family Focus; the merger of Seaview and Hillview and will also be completed for the updated transition policy once this is finalised.

- 7.3 An ERIA summary report for the Committee has been completed, summarising the above (see Appendix 2).

## 8. Sustainability impact

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- 8.1 The impacts of this report have been considered in relation to the three elements of the [Climate Change \(Scotland\) Act 2009](#) Public Bodies Duties. There are no sustainable impacts in relation to the contents of this progress report.

## 9. Consultation and engagement

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- 9.1 In 2012/13 we undertook a consultation exercise as part of our Commissioning Approach with disabled children, their parents and siblings. We agreed that we would repeat this survey to review progress made and planning is underway for this to be conducted in 2016.
- 9.2 Additionally it will include questions about self-directed support; sleep and parenting programmes and of parent/carers' potential interest in a Parental Participation Project (PPP).
- 9.3 The PPP is being explored as part of the Scottish Government's engagement strategy with families of disabled children, through [For Scotland Disabled Children's Parental Participation Project](#).
- 9.4 We are also implementing the use of a standard question, about a family's experiences as a whole, as to how well we are meeting the needs of the families of children with a disability in Edinburgh. Partners are being invited to use and report back on this question when undertaking a review of their services.
- 9.5 A newsletter has continued to be developed and issued on a four monthly basis through a school-bag drop to all children who receive special or additional education services. The purpose of this newsletter is to keep children and their families up to date with self-directed support and service developments.
- 9.6 There have also been regular engagement and consultation sessions, over the past year, with providers who support children with a disability in Edinburgh to aid the implementation of self-directed support and facilitate forward thinking in promoting a diverse and flexible market place for children and families in Edinburgh.
- 9.7 A Market Place Event took place in March 2015 at The Yard for providers and families to come together, to provide information sessions and to develop market shaping alongside providers and families.
- 9.8 There have also been presentations to established carers/parents groups across the city.



- 9.9 An initial evaluation of our implementation of self-directed support took place in August 2015. 18 families with 21 children were interviewed who had had a personal budget for more than six months.
- 9.10 An evaluation of both of our pilots FABB Flex and The Drop in have also taken place over the last year.

## **10. Background reading/external references**

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- 10.1 A Whole Systems Approach to Self-directed Support in Edinburgh
- 10.2 [National Self-directed Support Strategy 2010-2020](#)
- 10.3 [Social Care \(Self-directed Support\) \(Scotland\) Act 2013](#)
- 10.4 [The Children and Young People \(Scotland\) Act 2014](#)
- 10.5 [Progress on the Implementation of Self-Directed Support in Children and Families](#), Education, Children and Families Committee (May 2014)
- 10.6 [Support to Children and Young People with Disabilities: Annual Progress Report](#), Education, Children and Families Committee (September 2014)
- 10.7 [Progress on the Implementation of Self-Directed Support in Children and Families](#), Education, Children and Families Committee (May 2015)
- 10.8 Extension of Short Residential Breaks at Barnardo's Caern Contract, Finance and Resources Committee (February 2016)

### **Alistair Gaw**

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## 11. Links

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<b>Coalition pledges</b>	P1 – Increase support for vulnerable children, including help for families so that fewer go into care
<b>Council outcomes</b>	CO1 – Our children have the best in life, are ready to make and sustain relationships and are ready to succeed  CO3 – Our children and young people in need, or with a disability, have improved life chances
<b>Single Outcome Agreement</b>	SO3 – Edinburgh’s children and young people enjoy their childhood and fulfil their potential
<b>Appendices</b>	1 - Extract from the evaluation of self-directed support report August 2015  2 - ERIA Summary Report for Council Decision Makers

## APPENDIX 1

### Extract from the evaluation of self-directed support report August 2015

A sample of responses from 18 parents as to what is working well and what is not working well:

#### **WHAT WORKED WELL?**

- "Knowing the service will continue through my kids' childhood. The process was easy and it was great to have the choice. The whole family get something out of it. It's good to know exactly how much money there is, and what it has to be spent on".
- It was good the scores went up as well as down at panel. It was nice to be involved in the processes, which seemed very transparent. The playscheme has been a great support. We always use the full allowance.
- The process was 'easy and fast'. I was very impressed with our social worker, who was very good at what he does. Our son loves the weighted blanket and sensory lights and is sleeping better.
- Contingency Funds for Emergencies. 'I don't know how I would have managed without it'.
- It gives me time to manage my mother's care properly, instead of trying to balance this with the care of my son. My husband and I had our first holiday together in 23 years.
- The flexibility and outcomes were positive. This was a much less 'painful' process than the old system.
- It's good to have spending set out clearly, and to know exactly what the money can be spent on.
- I felt involved and the scores were fair.
- It was useful to be involved in the scoring, and I liked that the support could be chosen flexibly.
- The support gives my daughter independence and she is much happier. She is able to take part in activities she enjoys, and has made some friends.
- I like to have control over who works with my family.
- The budget has allowed our family to do things we wouldn't have otherwise done. It is teaching my son responsibility.

#### **WHAT DIDN'T WORK WELL?**

- Budget was too low. Services were too far away. We could only afford a limited number of sessions.
- Waiting lists are too long and I didn't like the scoring system.
- The questions were too repetitive and the feedback from the panel wasn't clear.
- There were tough questions to answer and it was a slow process.
- It took a long time and was daunting.

- The whole process took ages and I didn't feel the panel feedback was accurate. There was a lot of information to take in. I didn't think the feedback from the panel was accurate, and the disputes process wasn't clear.
- I have to top up hours as the Council don't fund enough to meet my son's needs.
- The letter from the panel wasn't clear, and the RBS card is very limiting.

## APPENDIX 2

### ERIA SUMMARY REPORT

#### ERIA Summary Report for Council Decision Makers

#### What CMT report / Committee report (including meeting date) does this ERIA information relate to?

Annual Report to Education, Children and Families Committee on support to children and young people with disabilities – 1 March 2016.

#### ERIA assessments have been carried out in relation to:

- Progress on the Implementation of Self-directed Support to Education, Children and Families on Self-directed support – 20 May 2014
- Review of Children & Families Occupational Therapy Team – 5 June 2014
- The Organisational Review of Family Focus and KidzOwn – 9 July 2014
- Personalisation Programme City of Edinburgh Council August 2014
- Re-provisioning of Hillview (crisis care) and Seaview (respite) for Disabled Children- 23 October 2015

#### What are the main impacts on rights?

**Health** – a variety of support services will be available to enhance the wellbeing of children and their families through services ranging from behavioural support, to day activities and overnight short breaks.

**Participation, Influence and voice** – our services offer children a voice by actively seeking their views in relation to their participation and/or any plans made in relation to their wellbeing, whenever appropriate and possible for them to do so.

To deliver more appropriate and personalised supports to children and their families as a result of co-production and through consultation and evaluations.

**Productive and Valued Activities** – Access to a range of supports that help children to feel valued, included and to enjoy their childhood i.e. play schemes, that enhances their quality of life and allows them increased opportunities for play and social inclusion.

**Individual, family and social life** – to enhance access to social opportunities, and promoting the right to family life when it is safe to do so

Self Directed Support has enhanced equality by ensuring in legislation that children and their families are treated fairly and equally, and this is done specifically to their needs and from this, care packages are developed and arranged on an individual and person centred basis, thus allowing families to choose the support that makes sense to them.

**Identity, expression and self respect** – our services support children and young people to live with their parents and to improve their sense of worth, dignity and respect. The implementation of Self-Directed Support has also assisted with this, as it promotes the personalisation of supports to meet their agreed outcomes.

### **What are the main impacts on equality?**

Given the requirements of the self-directed support legislation, the Council is changing the way in which children and families are assessed/reviewed and the way in which decisions about the support they receive are made. This is being done to ensure better outcomes for individuals and ensure greater consistency and transparency in how decisions are reached.

The approach to assessment/review is:

- person-centred – focussed on strengths, abilities and needs
- outcome focused – goals that are important to the individual
- conversational in nature
- collaborative (involving the person, carer, professional, others)

### **What are the main ERIA recommendations?**

1. Continue with the key performance indicator identified in relation to self-directed support planning to ensure that all eligible children and their families have a personalised co-produced support plan.
2. Continue with clear communication plans with children and their families and stakeholders affected by the recent changes to services such as the re-provisioning of Hillview and Seaview.
3. Support practitioners within Council to achieve a balance between people's rights to take risks and harm minimisation, a Risk Enablement Framework be developed that incorporates the FAIR approach to human rights into the assessment and support planning process.
4. To improve the Council's ability to publish equality outcomes and report progress, given the existing gaps in data and need to monitor experience of self-directed support implementation, integrate equalities monitoring into a Personalisation Programme Performance Management Framework.
5. To ensure changes as a result of self-directed support are not having a negative impact, the Council will continue to monitor, in an ongoing way, the experience of children and families using self-directed support.

### **Further Information**

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