

Education, Children and Families Committee

10:00, Tuesday, 7 March 2017

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

Item number 8.1

Report number

Executive/routine

Wards

Executive Summary

In March 2016, 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 purpose of this report is to update the Committee on progress over the last 12 months.

Links

Coalition Pledges	P1
Council Priorities	CP1, CP2, CP3
Single Outcome Agreement	SO2, SO3

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

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 Note the progress made within the social work services for children and young people with disabilities.
- 1.2 Note that a further report on progress will be presented to Committee in March 2018.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Children (Scotland) Act 1995 requires local authorities to:
 - 2.1.1 Minimise the effect on a disabled child within the authority's area;
 - 2.1.2 Give children who have a disability the opportunity to lead lives as normally as possible;
 - 2.1.3 Carry out an assessment of the child/young person and family if asked to do so by the child's parent or guardian.

3. Main report

Self-directed Support

- 3.1 The [Social Care \(Self-directed Support\) \(Scotland\) Act 2013](#) came into effect on 1 April 2014 and placed a number of new duties on local authorities, mainly to offer more choice to families in the arrangement of supports.
- 3.2 Aileen Campbell, MSP, officially launched the Scottish Government 2016-2018 Self-directed Support National Implementation Plan on 1 December 2016 and emphasised the Scottish Government commitment to normalising self-directed support as Scotland's approach to social care.
- 3.3 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. Given the scale of transformational change involved and the major shifts required in practice and culture, the arrangements put in place continue to be reviewed and revised in the light of experience, monitoring and evaluation.

- 3.4 The Funding Allocation System which was implemented from 1 April 2014 is currently under review as we seek to develop a unified self-directed support approach in relation to all children in need, rather than a specific funding allocation system for disabled children. The aim is to move away from a points-based resource allocation system to an equivalency model which can be applied across children and families and is more asset-based than deficit-led. The challenge is to apply this in a fair and transparent manner within limited funds and resources. The service plans to implement the proposed framework (see Appendix One) by 1 July 2017.
- 3.5 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 assessed eligible need, and have as much involvement as they wish in the planning, arranging and managing of supports to meet their needs and agreed outcomes.
- 3.6 The following statistics were submitted to the Scottish Government in August 2016 in response to information requested for the 2016 Social Care Survey:
 - 3.6.1 160 self-directed support plans were started for children, following an assessment of their needs between 1/4/15 and 31/3/16.
 - 3.6.2 The total value of the support within these plans amounted to £422,050.28;
 - 3.6.3 In terms of how families chose to arrange and pay for their support:
 - 3.6.4 99 families out of the 160 selected Option 1 to arrange part of or their entire support plan (Direct payment where the family choose the support, arrange and pay for it);
 - 3.6.5 46 families out of the 160 selected Option 2 to arrange part of or their entire support plan (Family choose the support and the council arrange and pay for it);
 - 3.6.6 47 families out of the 160 selected Option 3 to arrange part of or their entire support plan (Council choose the support and arrange and pay for it- usually the 'traditional' service delivery);
- 3.7 These figures reflect the findings of the 2016 National care Survey which also found that the number of people choosing a Direct Payment to purchase their supports continues to increase.
- 3.8 Our Children with Disability Team has a Key Performance Indicator in place stipulating that all children who were receiving support on 31 March 2014 should 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.
- 3.9 67 children receiving a service as of 31 March 2014 have now had a review under the new SDS legislation. Progress has been slower than expected due to the demands of undertaking assessments for new referrals and undertaking their

subsequent annual reviews of support. The total number of children within the disability team who now have an SDS plan is 155 (this includes children who received a service post March 2014). All of these children have an annual review within the 12- month period which is the target stipulated in the SDS Statutory Guidance.

- 3.10 The implementation of self-directed support legislation aligns with the Council's continued commitment to the Getting It Right for Every Child (GIRFEC) approach which is being embedded into legislation through The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.
- 3.11 Self-directed support is not a separate pot of money, but an approach which asks for more flexibility, choice and control for children and their families around how available funds are used to meet eligible need and achieve identified wellbeing outcomes of all children in need.
- 3.12 The approach also involves maximising best use of universal, family, community and existing commissioned resources and adopting an asset-based rather than a deficit-led approach.
- 3.13 The framework in Appendix One aims to demonstrate the proposed approach which builds on the GIRFEC and self-directed support principles of children and their families receiving appropriate, proportionate and timely support when they need it.
- 3.14 City of Edinburgh Council is committed to embedding an outcome-focused approach to the delivery of social care across all children in need, embedding the values and principles of self- directed support legislation as a way of doing things with people, not to or for them.
- 3.15 A separate progress report on the implementation of self-directed support within Communities and Families will be delivered to elected members at a future Education, Children and Families Committee in 2017.

Disability Practice Team

- 3.16 The Disability Practice Team consists of 1 Manager; 2 Team Leaders; 3 Senior Practitioners, 3 Social Work Assistants and 7.5 Social Workers.
- 3.17 The team undertakes the full range of statutory duties for children with a disability and their carers. The team works primarily with children with a significant physical disability or learning disability.
- 3.18 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.

	Disability Practice Team	Neighbourhood Hospital Service (figure includes all cases dealt with by hospital teams including New Royal Infirmary and Child and Adolescent Mental Health)
Caseload	413	176
Allocated cases	283	146
Unallocated cases awaiting initial assessment visit -new cases to the team	2	1
Unallocated cases awaiting a full assessment but no funded support under SDS in place	5	1
Families receiving a service to be annually reviewed	122	2
Children on Child Protection Register	5	14
Looked After and Accommodated Children	27	43
Looked After Children at Home	8	3

*Figures as of January 2017

- 3.19 All families referred to the Team are visited by a social worker to carry out initial assessment and to determine if further detailed assessment is required. In response to feedback from parents, the team now offers an information session to explain what is available in Edinburgh for children/young people who have a disability in Edinburgh. In many cases this results in an initial offer of a universal service which meets the needs of the child and family.
- 3.20 If a full social work assessment recommends that additional services are needed after family, community and universal supports have all been explored, this is

referred to a panel of managers to ensure consistency of decision making in allocation of resources. This is similar to practice in other Scottish local authorities.

- 3.21 If, following assessment, the family requires supports to meet eligible needs and outcomes, a budget/service level is agreed and offered to the family. The family and the allocated social worker then draw up a support plan outlining the package of support they want to put in place to meet the agreed outcomes for the child as well as outlining how they would wish this support to be arranged and paid for (the four Options).
- 3.22 All packages of support are reviewed within a year, or earlier if the family situation changes.
- 3.23 Workers within the Disability Practice Team have specialist knowledge in disability and a good awareness of the impact of disability on children and their families. The team has knowledge of local resources including third sector provision and supports families to find available resources. Workers also offer consultancy to locality practice teams, particularly in relation to children with autism and no learning disability.

Residential and Day Care Support Services

Seaview

- 3.24 Seaview is the only in-house residential service for children in Edinburgh, following the closure in 2015 of Hillview residential unit which provided a service to families in crisis or for longer term care placements due to family or carer breakdown. The impact of the closure, limited availability of foster care placements for children with significant disability, and the implementation of SDS have changed the pattern of demand for Seaview's 9 residential beds. There are more requests for shared care and less for short breaks. The team leader has led a strong team of staff who are highly committed to their children and effective in meeting a wide range of needs. The risk of closing Hillview was that it would limit our ability to respond to crises such as family breakdown and would create an associated risk that we will on occasion require to purchase residential resources from other providers. However, we have not admitted any children with disability to other residential units in the last year. There is some capacity becoming available at Seaview due to children moving on to other services.
- 3.25 Seaview currently provides a combination of residential short breaks and full time care for 38 children/young people, four of whom are looked after and accommodated on a full time basis.

Barnardo's Caern Short Breaks

- 3.26 The City of Edinburgh Council has commissioned services with Barnardo's Caern since 2003. Following the implementation of self-directed support legislation, the Council is moving incrementally from a block contract to individual contracts allowing families to exercise more choice. This has released monies to support more creative use of funds where requested

Action for Children

- 3.27 Action for Children is a residential respite unit for children/young people who have autism, a learning disability and severe and challenging behaviour. The unit is funded jointly by City of Edinburgh and the other Lothian local authorities and NHS contributes 50%.
- 3.28 Children/young people attend Action for Children when they are assessed with a high level of risk and need. This is a relatively intense type of service provision which aims to support families to maintain their resilience in order to avoid the need for full time accommodation of children. The service has in-house Psychology and offers all the families weekly outreach work to build their capacity to cope with challenging behaviour at home.

Day Services

- 3.29 The Disability Family Support Service is integrated with Seaview. It offers the following:
- 3.29.1 A small behaviour support team. This team can work in the family/carer's home to support families with the care/behaviour of their child. This can involve for instance ensuring pictorial communication systems are in place for the child, modelling or offering strategies to cope with different behaviours and sleep counselling. This service is supported by NHS and we receive consultation from the Children and Family Mental Health Learning Disability Team.
- 3.29.2 A small team of staff offers home or community support between 7am and 9pm, 7 days a week to families who are in crisis, hospital discharge, have welfare concerns or family health issues. The service either offers support for a short period of time until the crisis eases or the family are assessed for longer term support. This small team is currently the only team in Edinburgh to be able to offer early morning support. This appears to be a gap in the market whereby third sector providers find it difficult to recruit staff with sufficient flexibility to work early in the morning for a short time to support families with getting their son/daughter ready for school.
- 3.29.3 The Team runs a club at the weekend which is at full capacity for children aged 5 -12 years old. This offers families around 78 hours of short breaks per annum and gives the children the opportunity to have a social and play opportunity with other children of a similar age.

Play schemes

- 3.30 Easter 2017 will see the end of the first tendered contract for the Playscheme service. INC consortium delivers this contract and is currently made up of the Action Group, Fabb Scotland, Kidzcare Ltd, Lothian Autistic Society and The Yard.
- 3.31 The contract aimed to offer up to six weeks of service to 400 children and young people. The following shows the rate of uptake:

PLAYSCHEME UPTAKE					
	6 weeks	5 weeks	4 weeks and less	Average	Total number of children
Year 1	98	65	295	3.5 weeks per child	458
Year 2	121	75	275	4.2 weeks per child	471
Year 3 (year to date)	96	59	183	4.02 weeks per child	338 (at time of writing)

3.32 INC Consortium repeated a satisfaction survey in 2016 with all parents and carers whose child currently attends the play scheme service. This survey was also undertaken in 2015. Headline findings below show parent/carer satisfaction levels to be overall very positive.

	Rating Choice of: Very happy, Happy, OK, Not happy, Very unhappy	2015 % (no. of responses)	2016 % (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)	93% (81 out of 87)
Did the play scheme make positive differences to you and your child?	Very happy or Happy	93% (103 out of 110)	90% (78 out of 87)
Did your child enjoy the activities that were offered?	Very happy or Happy	94% (101 out of 107)	89% (79 out of 89)
Were the transport arrangements suitable for your needs?	Very happy or Happy	75% (78 out of 104)	77% (65 out of 84)
Did our staff team communicate well with you?	Very happy or Happy	80% (86 out of 108)	81% (72 out of 89)
How did you find our booking service?	Very happy or Happy	82% (92 out of 111)	70% (62 out of 89)

3.33 In order to establish dialogue about service improvements, INC established a Parents Reference Group to raise any areas of concern and develop an action plan.

- 3.34 In addition to the playscheme service delivered by INC consortium we also fund:
- A small play scheme service for four children with severe and significant challenging behaviour. This is currently delivered by Action for Children for 6 weeks of the year. This provides a high staffing ratio for children who struggle in a larger group setting and who often need an individualised programme;
 - Contribution towards the Family play sessions at The Yard during the school holidays;
 - Family Fun Swim sessions delivered by Edinburgh Leisure.
- 3.35 Edinburgh Leisure delivered two family drop-in swimming sessions during Easter 2016 and 5 sessions in summer 2016 with up to 25 families accessing each session. This is an improvement from the three families who accessed it in the previous year and is possibly due to the service now running on a Saturday instead of mid-week. The service area intends to continue this service in discussion with Edinburgh Leisure for 2017.
- 3.36 The Playscheme service is now out to tender and the process will be ongoing as this report is made public. It is intended the new provider will commence delivery in August 2017. To ensure there is no break in service the current provider, INC consortium has agreed to extend their current contract to deliver a service in summer 2017.
- 3.37 To prepare for the tender the service area undertook an extensive co-production exercise with stakeholders including:
- An open discussion with INC partners to determine what worked, what didn't work and what could be improved;
 - an online survey for parents/carers asking them to highlight what has worked, what hasn't worked and detailing some of the current financial/demand pressures for the service and seeking their suggestions for solutions;
 - two sessions with colleagues to determine 'what we do well, what we need to improve and what we can change and how';
 - three focus groups for parents/carers to feedback and fine tune their suggestions;
 - a briefing event for prospective providers to facilitate a solution focussed discussion using parent/carer suggestions; and
 - two newsletters throughout the process for families to ensure ongoing communication.
- 3.38 The service has experienced the following pressures which have had an impact on capacity levels and costs: increasing demand, increase in support needs of individual children leading to an increase in staffing ratios and an increase in staff costs due, in part, to the introduction of the National Living Wage. The Council, in discussion with the Provider, has managed to date to balance these pressures within the budget available, however, this may need to be reviewed in the future.

- 3.39 In addition to these commissioned contracted services, we also have a number of grant funded projects which support disabled children and their families and the three year grant funded projects are detailed in Appendix 2.

4. Measures of success

- 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.
- 4.2 Reducing the number of children with a disability having to become looked after and accommodated.
- 4.3 Preventing disabled children from having to be placed in an out of council placement

5. Financial impact

- 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 continues to be necessary to monitor and calibrate any resource allocation system to meet the eligible needs of individuals within budget.

6. Risk, policy, compliance and governance impact

- 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 eligible 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.

- 6.2 The operation of our Funding Allocation System has been closely monitored over the past year 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 As stated in 1.3, the Funding Allocation System which was implemented from 1 April 2014 is currently under review as we seek to develop a unified self-directed support approach in relation to all children in need, rather than a specific funding allocation system for disabled children. The new resource allocation system will also emphasise a pathway which maximises the best use of universal, family, community and existing commissioned targeted resources and adopting an asset-based rather than a deficit-led approach (see Appendix One).
- 6.4 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 to by practitioners and that there is a clear audit of the spending of public funds when a direct payment has been given.
- 6.5 A review of the transition policy and procedure is still outstanding, pending the outcome of organisational reviews within Health and Social Care. This will be undertaken within the next year.

7. Equalities impact

- 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.
- 7.3 An ERIA summary report for the Committee has been completed, summarising the above (see Appendix 3).

8. Sustainability impact

- 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

- 9.1 The SO3 disability sub group of the Children's Partnership implemented 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.
- 9.2 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.
- 9.3 There have continued to be 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.
- 9.4 There have also been presentations to established carers/parents groups across the city.
- 9.5 As detailed in section three, there has been an extensive co-production exercise in relation to the evaluation of the playscheme contract, prior to writing the new service specification which is now out for tender.

10. Background reading/external references

- 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 [Support to Children and Young People with Disabilities: Annual Progress Report](#), Education, Children and Families Committee (March 2016)
- 10.6 [Progress on the Implementation of Self-Directed Support in Children and Families](#), Education, Children and Families Committee (May 2015)

- 10.7 Extension of Short Residential Breaks at Barnardo's Caern Contract, Finance and Resources Committee (February 2016)
[http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/download/meetings/id/49686/item_78 -
 _extension_of_short_residential_breaks](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/download/meetings/id/49686/item_78_-_extension_of_short_residential_breaks)
- 10.8 Self-directed Support Strategy 2010-2020, Implementation Plan 2016-2018
<http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2016/12/5432>

Alistair Gaw

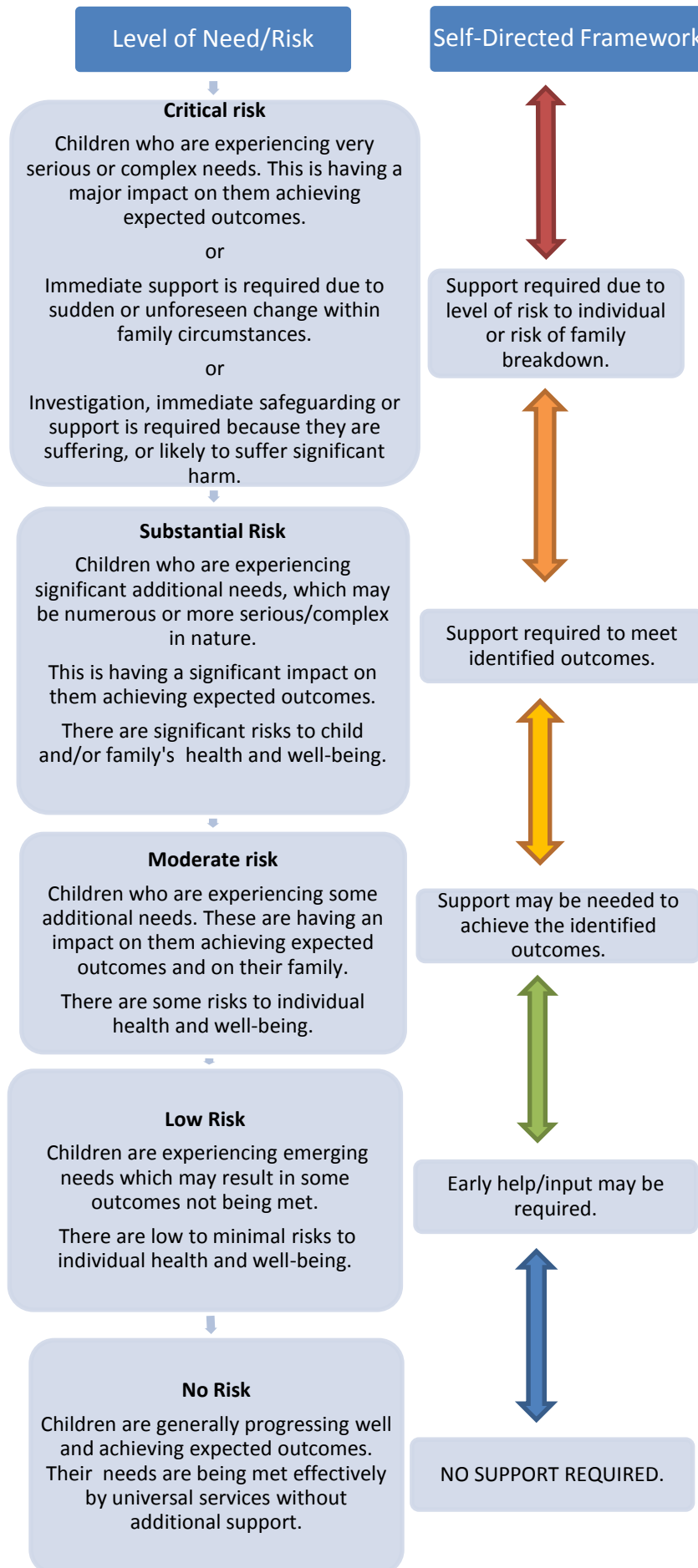
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11. Links

Coalition Pledges	P1 Increase support for vulnerable children, including help for families so that fewer go into care
Council Priorities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Children and young people fulfil their potential 2. Improved health and wellbeing: reduced inequalities 3. Right care, right place, right time
Single Outcome Agreement	<p>SO2 Edinburgh's citizens experience improved health and wellbeing, with reduced inequalities in health</p> <p>SO3 Edinburgh's children and young people enjoy their childhood and fulfil their potential</p>
Appendices	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Framework 2 Three-Year Grant Programme 2015-2018 3 ERIA Summary Report for Council Decision Makers



City of Edinburgh Council Three-Year Grant Programme 2015-2018

- The Council contributes funds to the following projects with a remit for supporting Children with a Disability.
- These descriptors are summarised from the grant applications and/or the public websites. Please contact the organisation directly or visit their website for the most accurate/up-to-date information on their respective services and supports.

Project	Short Descriptor
The Yard	The Yard runs adventure play services for disabled children, young people and their families in the east of Scotland. We offer disabled children and their siblings the chance to experience creative, adventurous indoor and outdoor play in a well-supported environment.
The Yard from 1 January 2017	A programme of targeted therapeutic and developmental play and activity sessions, where children with disabilities, developmental delay and life-threatening conditions, who have faced barriers in accessing essential early years services, can receive the support they require.
Sleep Scotland	Sleep Scotland promotes healthy sleep in children and young people through sleep awareness, sleep counselling, and education.
Fabb Scotland	Fabb Scotland works to give disabled children and young people access to sport, leisure and outdoor adventure. They raise awareness of disability among young people, breaking barriers to participation and facilitating access to community services.
Firsthand - Family Support	Firsthand deliver flexible and tailored respite to meet both the needs of the parents/carers, child/ren with a disability and their siblings. This whole family approach, delivered in the family home where children feel secure and comfortable, save parents/carers time, planning and the challenges of travel to access respite services for one child with a disability.
Lothian Autistic Society – The Summit Awards	Basecamp offers a wealth of opportunities to help develop skills in social communication and social interaction. Based in a local venue, the club focuses on themes which aim to develop your child's ability to cope in group setting over a 22-week programme.
Kindred	Kindred's vision and actions are to develop and maintain high quality specialist advocacy services which will be able to support families with complex needs and campaigning for families of children with additional support needs. The aim of the project is to provide support through information, assisting with forms and attending meetings with families.

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 any changes to services such as the reprovisioning of Hillview and Seaview and the future delivery of the playscheme service.
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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