

Education, Children and Families Committee

10am, Tuesday, 15 November 2022

Edinburgh Secure Services – update report

Executive/routine
Wards
Council Commitments

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 Committee is asked to take note of the positive progress in the report and agree to further updates to Education, Children and Families Committee.

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Edinburgh Secure Services – update report

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 On 3 May 2022 Committee considered a report on the B agenda in relation to Edinburgh's Secure Services.
- 2.2 This report updates Committee on the positive progress in Edinburgh Secure Services (ESS).

3. Background

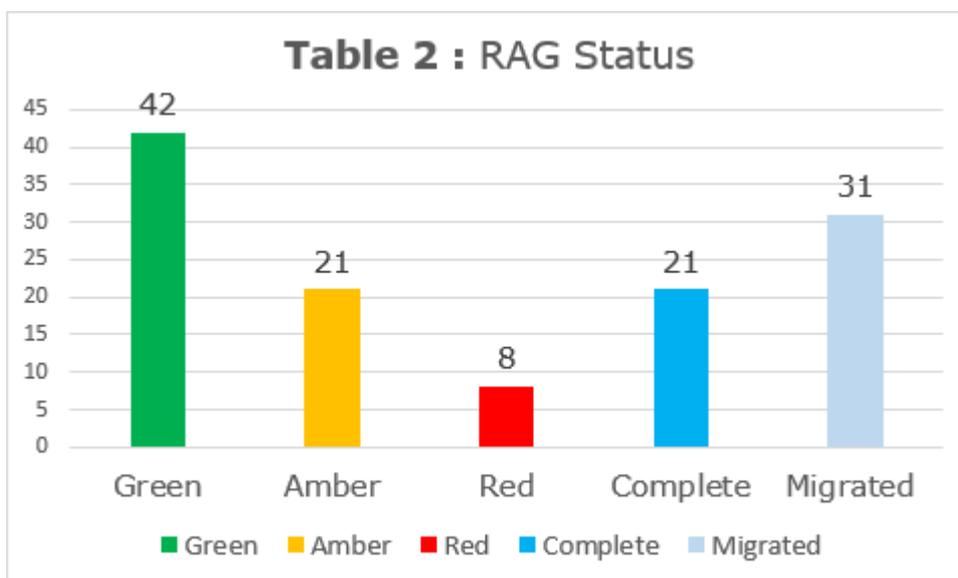
- 3.1 On 3 May 2022 Committee considered a report on the B agenda in relation to Edinburgh's Secure Services. Reports had previously been tabled at GRBV and full council on the B agenda and this included the full improvement plan.

4. Main report

- 4.1 The ESS and Residential Consolidated Improvement Plan has been introduced to the service: The Plan is an amalgamation of the recommendations identified in three separate investigations / enquiries carried out into residential care in Edinburgh. The oversight of the Plan is as follows:
 - 4.1.1 Improvement Board (a multi-agency, multi-disciplinary Board, Chaired by Executive Director, and meets every two months and has representatives from the Care Inspectorate)
 - 4.1.2 The Oversight Group (Previously Chaired by Jackie Irvine, Service Director who has now left the Council), now Chaired by the Acting Senior Manager and meets monthly. This group reports to the Oversight Board.
 - 4.1.3 Two working groups, each meeting once a month report to the - Oversight Group:
 - 4.1.3.1 Complaints, Restraints and Single-Separation (Chaired by the Manager of Edinburgh Secure Services).
 - 4.1.3.2 Recruitment and Locum Bureau (Chaired by the Acting Manager, Residential Care)

4.1.4 All tiers above are supported by Quality Assurance Officers.

4.2 The board considers the status of the improvement plan at each meeting and also undertakes a deep dive into key areas. For all reds and ambers, the board ensures mitigation plans are in place.



4.3 Since May 2022 the service has focussed on increasing the numbers of colleagues completing their online MyCALMS training. This is a theory course for colleagues focused on de-escalation techniques, to date 85% of colleagues have completed this training. Sitting alongside this is the need for colleagues to undertake accredited CALM physical intervention training, required for any physical intervention with a young person. Following a hiatus in the required physical practice/demonstration sessions during the height of Covid-19, accredited sessions have now restarted and staff within residential services are prioritising accreditation.

4.4 We are working with the [Promise](#) and fundamentals of [Edinburgh's Promise](#) to become a restraint free provision, by supporting colleagues to develop the skills to recognise how to respond to challenging behaviour in a trauma informed way. We recognise that the responsibility to create an environment which actively reduces the likelihood of restraint is as important as developing a leadership culture that upholds children's rights and applies the values of care into everyday life.

4.5 Who Cares? Scotland has reported that they have received a positive change in response to their young person's advocacy service, particularly within Edinburgh Secure Service. This is a welcome improvement as they gain access to all young people's centres and ESS, a change to the previous culture where there was a lack of partnership working.

4.6 ESS are being supported by the Councils and the Health and Social Care Partnerships Trauma Informed Services Advisory Panel (TISAP) to develop awareness amongst staff of trauma informed practice.

4.7 The Service has undertaken a review of a number of processes to ensure safer recruitment, performance management, supervision, use of restraints, complaints and managing allegations of abuse against members of staff. Through working with

the Council's ICT provider's Operational Change Manager, ESS has implemented positive changes which now ensures access to the CORPAD site for all colleagues, through creating more live data points, allowing easier access to MyLearning Hub and other online learning.

- 4.8 All vacancies will now be recruited to as a vacancy emerges and adverts will be specific about which young people's house, they are applying to work in. Managers have welcomed the change to recruitment as this allow them to select applicants with the right skills, experience and values that match their houses. Management oversight of restraints, supervision and managing allegations against staff is in place and exit interviews for leavers has been introduced.
- 4.9 Members of the Champions board have visited ESS and reported on positive physical changes to the building and also the culture of the service.
- 4.10 Refurbishment work is underway in the building and we hope to meet there soon with members of the Education, Children and Families Committee so they can see the improvements made.

5. Next Steps

- 5.1 To proceed as set out in the recommendation 1.1, and provide regular updates to the Education, Children and Families Committee.

6. Financial impact

- 6.1 There has been an increase in funding internally for residential to provide additional Team Leaders/Managers, one for each house. We have a contract with Who Cares through commissioning.

7. Stakeholder/Community Impact

- 8.1 Who Cares Scotland who provide an Advocacy Service for City of Edinburgh Council and other Local Authority Areas.
- 8.2 The Care Inspectorate who attend our Board meetings and undertake inspections into our residential care services.
- 8.3 The Children and Young People's Commissioner Scotland who is invited to our Board and receives minutes of our meetings.

8. Background reading/external references

- 8.1 N/A

9. Appendices

- 9.1 None.