

4.0 Our ambition: Our children will live safely and permanently with a family wherever it is safe to do so

Lead: Strategic Lead Cared for & Care Experienced Children - Phil Bradley

Our approach: To ensure children have the right plan that supports them to have a stable safe base with trusting relationships that endure to adulthood and beyond . We will use the principles and provocations of No Wrong Door to underpin our approach and apply the bench mark of " would this be good enough for my own child"

Action Plan		Review of Progress & Priorities	RAG
4.1	Roll out and embed principle led permanence strategy that has the No Wrong Door Provocations at the heart	Refreshed and strengthened our frameworks for planning for permanence with our Permanence Strategy and Care Planning Framework to strengthen the quality and consistency of care planning across the whole service. Principles of the stargeies align with the NWD principles . Socialisation of the strategy starting to take place and has been prdsented to CPB. Learning session are in place to promote and embed that approach . Permance tracker and data set in place and being used to identify areas that need focused attention	
4.2	Reset and embed No Wrong Door Model as our Edge of Care and family based model of care	Reset and adopted our project approach to re-shape No Wrong Door (Kindle), aligned NWD with our in house supported living accommodation. In addition, we have secured funding for health specialist posts within the model, and are with the Police to agree their coniuened involvement in NWD . Formal consultation currently underway to formally integrate Kindle (residential) with Family Focus - in line with the efficacy of the NWD model	
4.3	Roll out and embed the deep dive methodology for No Wrong door as our approach to dynamic care planning	Started to use the Child Journey methodology (similar to RAISE meetings in NWD) as we go live with revised NWD model those RAISE meetings will be embedded. Care planning meetings as routine is embedded with the strategy and being rolled out.	
4.4	Refresh & embed a dedicated discharge project that maximises the full range of legal options available to carers and reduces statutory interventions	Invested in a dedicated discharge project team with a focus on stepping out of children's lives. The discharge project is now fully operational, and the project workers are attending the case progression panel. All cases deemed as 'moving to discharge' are being co-worked and supported by the project workers. We now have a strong understanding of which children we can seek to end PWP arrangements. We have 21 children and young people moving to discharge and 11 awaiting a Court date so this figure is expected to improve over the rest of the year. We need to continue to monitor & report on the impact of the dedicated discharge project & ensure that we embed the infrastructure within the Permanence Strategy and tracking process.	
4.5	Redesign and modernise our family placements service to maximise foster care recruitment and the support offered to all carers including friends and family carers	Re-designed and organised the fostering service on a function basis (established 3 teams that are linked to the functions of fostering rather than generic) and implemented a whole service modernisation plan. In addition we are engaged with GM and local innovation taking a proactive approach to increasing foster care retention and recruitment (e.g. digital marketing campaign; spare room project, development of foster care portal through LCS housing solutions to increase sufficiency).	
4.6	Roll out and embed placement support meetings as routine from the point of placements being made	Placement Support Meetings are taking place (28 held this year) but are not fully embedded. There will be a renewed focus on these as part of the launch of the Care Planning Framework. The ambition is to make these meetings routine rather than in response to stress within a placement.	

4.7	Maximise and embed the range and use of strength based reviews so that our children and young people are fully involved and influence their plans	<p>This is an area that we have yet to make significant progress and will be a focus of the bespoke commissioned programme of work that Jan Howarth is carrying out January/February.</p> <p>There is some limited evidence of strength based reviews across the service, in areas such as SHINE.</p>	
4.8	Develop and embed a whole service approach to life story work that ensures every child has a record of their story and decisions we have made for them / with them made and that their case file is a record and celebration of their life	<p>Produced a Life Story Work Framework following work within a Task & Finish group and commissioned training to support practitioners. Life Story Work session at Practice Fortnight. . Still need to embed life story work as routine across whole service.</p>	
4.9	Improve the quality and consistency of Pathway planning for our care experienced young people that reflects the standard of "would this be good enough for my own child" and supports consistent persistent support	<p>Redesigned the service to support better planning and transition through care with a proactive approach in terms of transitions. Developed a dedicated scorecard that is helping us become more data intelligent, and understand where there are gaps.</p> <p>Reviewed the systematic recording of pathway plans to support practice. This has involved making changes to LL and we are now focusing on consistency and quality.</p> <p>We need to retain the new focus on the quality and consistency of pathway planning through the launch of the refreshed Pathway Plan with a workforce development plan to support the delivery of this.</p>	
4.10	Review and refresh the care leaver offer and implementation to ensure it aligns and is consistent with GM offer and the raising of the standard of "only good or better is good enough for our young people".	<p>This is an area with limited progress. We have signed up to GM charter, and there are plans in place to meet with care leavers in April for their input into the production of our new leaving care offer. This needs to include the development of a transition pathway between our Care Experienced Service and Adult Services. We have continued to promote the Offer as is but we want to extend and expand this based on the wishes and ambitions of our young people.</p>	
4.11	Increase and enhance Employment, Education and Training Opportunities for looked after children and care leavers.	<p>Maintained a forensic focus on education and achievement and introduced a post 16 PEP co-ordinator, as part of national pilots. Dedicated plan in place.</p>	