



## Well-being Objective 1

Start Well - Help to give every child the best start in life and improve their early life experiences

The following are our commitments and end of year progress comments for this Well-being Objective during 2018/19

Last Year's Commitments	Progress Comment
<b>A - Supporting families</b>	
We will ensure the Council fully responds and delivers key childcare and play requirements moving towards delivering 30 hours of free education and care for working parents. (Ref 13091) MF5-41	✓ The roll-out of the <b>childcare offer</b> has commenced in Carmarthenshire since January 2019. The families of 2,735 - 3 and 4 year olds in Carmarthenshire will be eligible, which is excellent news for eligible working parents and carers throughout the County. Family Information, Childcare and Play Team are monitoring registration and offering additional support where necessary to encourage providers. Promotion work is on-going.
We will continue to develop the Flying Start programme, promoting early intervention for disadvantaged families with children (0-3) living in specific deprived communities, ensuring good multi agency support to families across the spectrum of need by developing clear pathways with internal and external partners. (Ref 13092) MF5-82	✓ Flying Start service is now being fully delivered across 18 areas, covering 768 postcodes within Carmarthenshire. The FS health visitors are delivering the Healthy child Wales Programme (HCWP) through a multi-disciplinary approach. A range of engagement groups are being delivered in the community to promote positive parenting and children's language development.
We will continue to provide attachment awareness training in schools to ensure they are able to meet the emotional needs of vulnerable children. (Ref 13093)	✓ <b>Attachment awareness</b> training has been provided to all 73 schools that have looked after children, and an authority wide training programme is in place and is being embedded as part of the core training within phase one of the 'behaviour transformation programme' in schools.
We will continue to transform children's social work practice by embedding and developing the systemic model of working (within Pod's), combining cohesively with Signs of Safety, including Disability and Fostering Services. (Ref 13094)	✓ Changes to forms and processes have been made to support the development of systemic practice. 6 week development sessions and Pod leader forums take place regularly and provide opportunities to share learning, skills and knowledge. A working group has also been formed to help ensure systemic practice is integrated with Signs of Safety to be as effective and consistent as possible. Regular training takes place.

Last Year's Commitments	Progress Comment
<p>We will implement the re-commissioned Families First (FF) programme (0-25yrs) incorporating the changes in response to Welsh Government Guidance, in delivering early intervention support services for disadvantaged children, young people and families across the county. (Ref 13095)</p>	<p>✓ 9291 individuals received support from FF projects during the year. The revised programme consists of 13 projects, under three key areas: Parenting support, support for young people and disability support. There has also been a number of changes including the Family Support Worker project being replaced by the new Family Support &amp; Schools project. Families First has been working in partnership with Supporting People to develop a joint specification for Domestic Abuse. From April 2019 FF programme will be included with 6 other funding streams under the Children &amp; Communities Grant (CCG) which will help improve and integrate service delivery.</p>
<p>We will continue to implement and consolidate the 'MACSE' (Multi-Agency Child Sexual Exploitation) model, and ensure we are conforming to regional thresholds and multi-agency arrangements. (Ref 13096)</p>	<p>✓ Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) remains a key priority issue both locally and regionally and a number of events have continued throughout the year. Carmarthenshire ensures CSE is on the agenda of local meetings internally and multi-agency. Specific MACSE meetings are continuing to consider children and young people who are at moderate and significant risk of CSE. CSE is included in all basic safeguarding training to ensure all staff have a broad understanding of the issues. Carmarthenshire is part of a Barnardo's pilot in respect of CSE, and in regards to the regional action plan.</p>
<p>We will continue to extend the Team Around the Family (TAF) approach across the county for 0-25 year olds, clarifying thresholds to help inform families and other agencies to ensure they are able to access the right help at the right time. (Ref 13097)</p>	<p>✓ This year has seen a number of developments come to fruition. The threshold document continues to be embedded. The new JAFF is operational from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019. The new TAF-in-Schools project has a co-ordinator and three full-time workers and induction underway. Links are maintained with children's services teams along with Education and Flying Start to ensure families receive the right support at the right time. A Task and Finish group is developing the school Behaviour Support Plan for the future.</p>
<p>We will review our Corporate parenting strategy taking into account new guidance on the responsibility of the whole council as corporate parents. (Ref 13098) MF5-40</p>	<p>✓ A group of care experienced young people are developing the new strategy with the support of the Corporate Parenting Team and Voices From Care. They have met with a range of senior leaders and been part of Welsh Government Consultation. The new strategy is 70% complete and young people hope to have the strategy finalised over the summer holidays.</p>
<p>We will increase the % attendance of eligible 2-3 year olds at an allocated Flying Start free childcare placement to prepare for school readiness. (9.1.8.1) (2017/18 Result - 77% / 2018/19 Target - 80%)</p>	<p>✗ <b>2018/19 Result - 79.2%.</b> Disappointing as extremely close to reaching the target but it has improved on the 2017/18 result of 77%. We have recently reviewed our attendance policy and de-registration processes and we will continue to work alongside childcare providers and health visitors to increase the attendance rates in the settings.</p>

Last Year's Commitments	Progress Comment
<p>We will reduce the % of unauthorised absence of eligible 2-3 year olds at an allocated Flying Start free childcare placement to prepare for school readiness. <i>(9.1.8.8) (2017/18 Result - 3.60% / 2018/19 Target - 3.55%)</i></p>	<p>✓ <b>2018/19 Result – 2.59%.</b> This has exceeded our target and shows an improvement on our previous year's result of 3.6%.</p>
<p>As part of the new Social Services and Well-Being Act, children are asked whether they are satisfied with the care and support they've received. <i>(PAM/027) (2017/18 Result - 80.7% were satisfied with 2.4% saying they were not / 2018/19 Target - 81.9% or above)</i></p>	<p>✓ <b>2018/19 Result – 84.6% were satisfied.</b> A total of 461 questionnaires were sent out to children between the ages of 7-17 years who are in receipt of social care services. 71 were returned (15.4%). 84.6% of children reported being satisfied with their 'care and support'. Just 4.6% (3 children) were not satisfied with their care and support). We are pleased to have exceeded our target (81.9%) and last year's result (80.7%).</p>
<p>We aim to keep the percentage of looked after children who have experienced one or more changes of school during a period or periods of being looked after which were not due to transitional arrangements to a minimum. <i>(SCC/32) (2017/18 result - 4.0%/2018/19 Target - 4.0%)</i></p>	<p>✓ <b>2018/19 Result - 0.9%.</b> We continue to perform well in this measure. Efforts are made to maintain stability wherever possible by ensuring a child remains in the same school, however, this is not always in the best interest of a child e.g. distance to travel or child's academic needs not being met Please note that the % result will fluctuate depending on the number of compulsory school aged Looked After Children at the end of each period – lower the number the higher the % result.</p>
<p>We aim to reduce the % of children in care who had to move 3 or more times <i>(PAM/029) (2017/18 result - 8.8% / 2018/19 Target - 8.3%)</i></p>	<p>✗ <b>2018/19 Result - 10.4%.</b> It's disappointing that target of 8.3% has not been met and the result is higher than previous year. However the number of looked after children has decreased in Carmarthenshire to 183 and is one of the best in Wales. The reduction in the number of Looked After Children has affected and impacted on our baseline figures. Some reasons for placement moves include:- emergency/alternative placements for unaccompanied asylum seekers all having different and cultural needs, siblings requiring emergency/more experienced placements due to high level of need requiring support from Child &amp; Adolescent Mental Health Service, a baby with great medical needs etc. The department will continue to review and improve placement stability through the accommodation panel. Robust placement support meetings will ensure carers are well supported and the children placed in their care can be maintained safely with additional resources.</p>
<p>We shall increase the percentage of child assessments completed in time <i>(PAM/028) (2017/18 Result - 89.7%/2018/19 Target - 90%)</i></p>	<p>✗ <b>2018/19 Result 87.2%.</b> This is off target and showing a decline compared to the previous year. Staffing issues have existed in one of the assessment teams which have influenced the completion of assessments within timescales but these have now been resolved. Service Managers take regular monthly audits with feedback being given to respective managers and personnel. Any themes or trends highlighted by the audits are incorporated into practice development sessions with managers and workforce.</p>

Last Year's Commitments	Progress Comment
<p>We shall ensure that supported children remain living within their family wherever possible (SCC/25) (2017/18 Result - 81.5% / 2018/19 Target - 82.0%)</p>	<p>✓ <b>82.3%</b> of children were supported to remain living with their family during 2018/19. This is on target and improved on the previous year.</p>
<p>We shall ensure that looked after children are returned home from care as quickly and safely as possible (SCC/26) (2017/18 Result - 22.7% / 2018/19 Target - 23.0%)</p>	<p>✗ <b>19.8%</b> of looked after children returned home from care during 2018/19, this is less than we were hoping for and below the previous year, but is well above the Wales Average for 2017/18 of 10.5%. On a positive note, the number of young people who have been able to remain with their foster carers under the <i>When I Am Ready</i> arrangements after turning 18 has increased from 7 (17/18) to 13 this year. Adoptions of children have also risen from 4 (17/18) to 13 (18/19).</p>
<p>We shall keep the % of re-registrations of children on local authority Child Protection Registers (CPR) to a minimum (SCC/27) (2017/18 Result - 0.7% / 2018/19 Target - 6.0%)</p>	<p>✗ <b>2018/19 Result 6.3%</b>. This is off target and has increased on the previous year. Past performance has proved quite extreme with End of Year results 16/17 = 10.4% and 17/18 = 0.7, therefore, predictions for performance and target setting have been difficult to gauge. All Wales 17/18 result = 5.4% The number of registrations during 2018/19 have decreased from 138 (17/18) to 126. We have been working with families to reduce risk and ensure safety plans are being managed effectively across the signs of safety model of working together with systemic practice and family network meetings at an early stage. Preventative work with families and involvement of resources such as the Intensive Family Support and Edge of Care Teams may also have attributed to this Re-registration reasons were deterioration in parental mental health; domestic abuse/parental mental health; parent involved in drug culture relapse of parental substance misuse and an on-going investigation regarding possible non accidental injury, child in care of relative. We will continue to work with children and families under the Signs of Safety model of working together with systemic practice and holding family network meetings at an early stage. Preventative work with families and involvement of resources such as the Intensive Family Support and Edge of Care Teams will also carry on.</p>
<p>We shall reduce the average length of time for all children who were on the Child Protection Register during the year (SCC/28) (2017/18 Result - 213.1 days / 2018/19 Target - 211.2 days)</p>	<p>✗ <b>2018/19 Result 262.4 days</b>. This is off target and has increased on the previous year. This measure looks at those children removed from the Child Protection Register during the year. The number of children removed from the child protection register has increased from 108 (2017/18) to 143 (2018/19) which is positive. However, this has also impacted on the number of registration days as 35 extra children are included in the cohort compared to the same period last year</p>

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	<p>We have been and will continue to work with families to reduce risk and ensure safety plans are being managed effectively across the signs of safety model of working together with systemic practice and family network meetings. We will also continue on preventative work with families and the involvement of Intensive Family Support and Edge of Care Teams. Figures are very small and fluctuations can significantly influence the end result.</p>
<b>B – Additional Learning Needs</b>	
<p>We shall ensure the Council fully responds and complies with the requirements of the Additional Learning Needs transformation programme which aims to transform expectations, experiences and outcomes for children and young people by developing a unified system for supporting learners with additional needs from 0 to 25 years of age. <i>(Ref 13099) MF5-39</i></p>	<p>✓ In response to the Regional Additional Learning Needs (ALN) Transformation Plan we have created a Local ALN Transformation Implementation Plan. This Plan is monitored by the Strategic ALN Transformation Plan Group.</p>
<p>We will continue to delegate Additional Learning Needs (ALN) funding to schools and support them to map provision and meet all needs at a local level. We will consider future moves to develop a national needs-based school funding formula for ALN. <i>(Ref 13100)</i></p>	<p>✓ An electronic provision mapping tool has been developed and training for roll out to schools is planned. The LA consulted with primary schools on a revised ALN Formula Funding model which has been agreed and adopted.</p>
<p>We will continue to support schools to develop their person centred planning approaches to identify need, deliver personalised additional learning provision and provide holistic integrated responses through multi-agency working. <i>(Ref 13101)</i></p>	<p>✓ A new cohort of 20 school-based Person Centred Planning (PCP) Coaches have been selected for training and will be mentored in PCP practice. A programme of training for PCP Champions and Coaches, including a range of school staff, has ensured schools use PCP approaches to identify ALN early, deliver personalised Additional Learning Provision and through the use of One Page Profiles and Individual Development Plans provide holistic integrated responses through multi-agency working.</p>
<p>We will continue to develop Individual Development Plans to meet all needs at all stages. <i>(Ref 13102)</i></p>	<p>✓ We have developed Individual Development Plan (IDP) templates and guidance to meet all needs at all stages. Following joint working with IT, templates will be held as a document file on pupil files on Teacher Centre (Schools Information Management System). The Regional ALN task and finish group will continue to meet to develop IDPs to meet all needs at all stages.</p>
<p>We will monitor, evaluate and celebrate achievements at key milestones of Additional Learning Needs (ALN) reform, especially the assessment and evaluation framework to provide schools with the confidence to innovate. <i>(Ref 13103)</i></p>	<p>✓ We participated in the Welsh Government's (WG) Strategic Implementation Group on the mechanism for transfer of IDP to Local Authority's and also on developing the ALN Code. Participated in WG Innovation grant update. LA sharing WG's work around impact assessments for specific area of need with Head teachers and ALN Coordinator's. We have consulted with all stakeholders on the ALN Code which gives schools the confidence that the new ALN Code will support innovation.</p>

Last Year's Commitments	Progress Comment
<p>We will review workforce data in relation to a range of support services, e.g. Educational and Child Psychology, Sensory Impairment support and Advisory Teachers, to ensure support for low incidence high-complexity needs and high incidence low complexity needs. <i>(Ref 13104)</i></p>	<p>✓ Workforce data has been reviewed. We have identified a Teacher of the Deaf and a Teacher of children and young people (CTP) with multi-sensory impairment to undertake training to gain a specialist advanced mandatory qualification to effectively meet the needs of sensory impairment CYP in the Authority. This is currently being undertaken. Support services are being strengthened by increasing key staff, e.g. a Family Liaison Officer. A Growth bid has provided additional resources to increase workforce capacity in the areas of ALN Transformation, family liaison and support for school-based capacity building.</p>