



Report To:	Inverclyde Alliance Board	Date:	2 October 2017
Report By:	Louise Long Corporate Director, (Chief Officer) Inverclyde Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP)	Report No:	
Contact Officer:	Sharon McAlees Head of Children's Services and Criminal Justice	Contact No:	01475 715282
Subject:	CORPORATE PARENTING		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise the Alliance Board on the progress of Inverclyde's Corporate Parenting Strategy and Plan and the associated activity with establishing a Champions Board.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 Part 9 (Corporate Parenting) of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 commenced on 1st April 2015 placed new corporate parenting duties on a wide range of publicly funded organisations, increasing the breadth and depth of support available to looked after children and young people, and those leaving care. Specifically the duties introduced by Part 9 of the Act create new drivers to support organisations to work individually as well as together to deliver better outcomes for looked after children and young people.
- 2.2 Key to delivering these Corporate Parenting duties and successful outcomes, is the relationship between care experienced young people and Corporate Parents. The establishment of a Champions Board will create the right conditions for Inverclyde's Corporate Parents to deliver on their current and new responsibilities in an informed way, by providing a connection to the real lives of our care experienced young people. Although it is important that care experienced young people are at the centre of setting the agenda, the ultimate responsibility for change and action will sit with Corporate Parents. Each member of the Champions Board will therefore have a designated portfolio for a key priority outcome with the eventual aim that services to care experienced children and their families are delivered via a model of co- production.
- 2.3 The overall aim of Inverclyde's Champions Board will be to improve the life chances of care experienced young people within the wider community. The Champions Board will have a lead in reducing misconceptions about care experienced young people, raising awareness of the barriers that they face and creating opportunities for care experienced young people to change practice and policy in a co-produced way.
- 2.4 Participation of young people is a recognised strength across Inverclyde and currently there are

various methods of gathering the views of care experienced young people. A care experienced young people's participation group, Proud 2 Care, has been established and is currently supported by the Children's Rights Worker and Who Cares Advocacy Worker. Willing representation from this group when fully prepared will participate in the Champions Board.

- 2.5 To progress and support the implementation of Inverclyde's Champions Board, a successful application for three year funding was submitted to the Lottery funded Life Changes Trust.
- 2.6 The total awarded was £225,000 and with match funding the overall budget amounts to £426,630. This funding has allowed us to support an expansion of the service provided by Who Cares by developing opportunities for Inverclyde care experienced young people to shape the work of the Champions Board and to build a sustainable model of delivery of Inverclyde's corporate parenting responsibilities.
- 2.7 The funding spend is monitored and evaluated by a robust reporting process to Life Changes Trust through quarterly, six-monthly and an end of year annual report. The agreed implementation plan with the Life Changes Trust is that a Champions Board will be established by December 2017.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Alliance Board:

- a. Notes the establishment of the Champions Board and the commitment to a champions approach to making a difference to the lives of looked after and care experienced children and young people.

Louise Long
Corporate Director, (Chief Officer)
Inverclyde HSCP

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 was passed by the Scottish Parliament and received Royal Assent in March 2014. The Act is the most significant piece of legislation in relation to children and young people since the Children (Scotland) Act 1995 and is a key part of the Scottish Government's strategy for making Scotland the best place in the world to grow up. Composed of 18 distinct parts, the Act makes important changes to a wide range of areas that impact on the lives of children and young people, and those of their families and carers.
- 4.2 Corporate Parenting Part 9 of the Act commenced on 1st April 2015 placed new corporate parenting duties on a wide range of publicly funded organisations, increasing the breadth and depth of support available to looked after children and young people, and those leaving care. Specifically the duties introduced by Part 9 of the Act create new drivers to support organisations to work individually as well as together to deliver better outcomes for looked after children and young people.
- 4.3 Corporate Parenting is defined in the Act as:
- “The formal and local partnerships between all services responsible for working together to meet the needs of looked after children, young people and care leavers”
And describes corporate parenting as:
- “An organisation’s performance of actions necessary to uphold the rights and safeguard the wellbeing of a looked after child or care leaver, and through which physical, emotional, spiritual social and educational development is promoted”.*
- 4.3.1 The legal definition of a looked after child is one who is:
- Subject to a Compulsory Supervision Order under Section 83 of the Children's Hearing (Scotland) Act 2011
 - Subject of a Permanence Order under Section 80 of the Adoption and Children (Scotland) Act 2007
 - Accommodated by the local authority under Section 25 Children (Scotland) Act 1995
- 4.3.2 Throughout this report the term “care experienced” refers to all looked after children and young people and care leavers irrespective of their legislation and placement.
- 4.4 The Scottish Government made the decision to legislate in this area because there was widespread belief that not enough was being achieved by policy alone and in this respect the implementation of Part 9 should be seen in the context of previous policy documents “We Can and Must Do Better” (2007) and “These Are Our Bairns – A Guide for Community Planning Partnerships” (2008).
- 4.5 Part 9 of the Act introduces a number of new duties. For the purposes of corporate parenting planning the following have the most relevance.
- Section 58 Corporate Parents are alert, assess, promote, provide opportunities, ensure access, strive to improve
 - Section 59 Planning by Corporate Parents
 - Section 60 Collaborative working by Corporate Parents
 - Section 61 Reports by Corporate Parents
 - Section 62 Duty to provide information to Scottish Ministers

4.6 Inverclyde and local community partners have worked in a collaborative way over a number of years. The new Act and the statutory guidance that accompanies it recommend that local authorities develop and publish their new integrated children's services plans and new corporate parent plans separately but within the wider context of joint children's planning. Inverclyde's overall strategic vision is "Getting it Right for every Child, Citizen and Community" and therefore Inverclyde's Corporate Parenting Plan will align with existing community planning and children's services planning and improvement frameworks.

The Scottish Government made the decision to legislate in this area because there was widespread belief that not enough was being achieved by policy alone and in this respect the implementation of Part 9 should be seen in the context of previous policy documents "We Can and Must Do Better" (2007) and "These Are Our Bairns – A Guide for Community Planning Partnerships" (2008).

4.7 In developing a corporate parenting strategy and plan with agreed priority outcomes for our care experienced young people, the following were taken into account:-

- Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014
- Inverclyde Attainment Challenge
- Inverclyde HSCP Strategic Needs Assessment
- Scottish Care Leavers Covenant
- Feedback from Care Inspectorate inspections of our regulated children's services.
- Feedback from care experienced children, parents and carers
- Consultation with corporate parents and community planning partners

4.8 Informed by this, four key Corporate Parenting priorities have been identified for Inverclyde

- **Early Help and Assistance**

Children their families and carers receive early help and assistance with seamless transitions from birth to adulthood.

- **Health and Wellbeing**

Care experienced young people have improved physical, mental and emotional health and wellbeing.

- **Learning, Achievement and Skills for Life**

Care experienced young people benefit from aspirational education and have equal opportunities to maximise skills for life.

- **Accommodation and Housing**

Care experienced young people have safe, secure, stable and nurturing homes.

4.9 Key to delivering successful outcomes is the relationship between care experienced young people and Corporate Parents. The establishment of a Champions Board will create the right conditions for Inverclyde's Corporate Parents to deliver on their current and new responsibilities in an informed way, by providing a connection to the real lives of our care experienced young people. Although it is important that care experienced young people are at the centre of setting the agenda, the ultimate responsibility for change and action will sit with Corporate Parents. Each member of the Champions Board will therefore have a designated portfolio for a key priority outcome.

- 4.10 Key to delivering successful outcomes is the relationship between care experienced young people and Corporate Parents. The establishment of a Champions Board will create the right conditions for Inverclyde's Corporate Parents to deliver on their current and new responsibilities in an informed way, by providing a connection to the real lives of our care experienced young people. Although it is important that care experienced young people are at the centre of setting the agenda, the ultimate responsibility for change and action will sit with Corporate Parents. Each member of the Champions Board will therefore have a designated portfolio for a key priority outcome.
- 4.11 Participation of young people is a recognised strength across Inverclyde and currently there are various methods of gathering the views of care experienced young people. A care experienced young people's participation group has been established and is currently supported by the Children's Rights Worker and Who Cares Advocacy Worker. Willing representation from this group when fully prepared will participate in the Champions Board.

5.0 PERFORMANCE

- 5.1 The Corporate Parenting Plan will progress four key priority outcomes that link directly with the national wellbeing indicators and Inverclyde's strategic commissioning themes. These outcomes and agreed performance measures will be monitored and evaluated quarterly and reported on an annual basis.
- 5.2 The Corporate Parenting sub group of SOA6 (best start in life) along with the Champions Board will oversee the delivery of Inverclyde's Corporate Parenting Plan and will report directly to SOA6, the Health and Social Care Committee and the Integration Joint Board.
- 5.3 The expected performance outcomes for the Champions Board are as follows:-
- Care experienced young people will have a voice and opportunity to develop positive relationships, become active citizens, whilst feeling able to shape and influence policy/practice relating to their lives.
 - Service providers and corporate parents will develop improved understanding of corporate parenting within their organisation and implement agreed improvements in policy and practice.
 - Service design, commissioning and funding decisions will better meet the needs of care experienced young people.
 - The Champions Board will inform and inspires the community in future engagement with care experienced young people.

- 5.4 The Life Changes Trust will monitor and evaluate the implementation of the Champions Board; particularly the integration of the Proud2Care Group in the working and delivery of Champions Board.

6.0 PROPOSALS

- 6.1 The establishment of Inverclyde Champions Board consisting of corporate directors elected members, third sector, Police Scotland, RSL's and SCRA each with a designated portfolio. The functioning of the Champions Board will be shaped by the participation of care experienced young people. The Champions Board will form an integral link between the young people's participation group and SOA6 with the longer term aim that services to care experienced children and their families is co-produced.
- 6.2 Champions will participate in a programme of training and awareness that will enable them to effectively participate in the Champions Board. This will commence in October 2017.

6.3 A formal launch of Inverclyde's Champions Board will take place in December 2017.

7.0 IMPLICATIONS

7.1 **Legal:** There are no legal issues within this report.

7.2 **Finance:**

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report £000	Virement From	Other Comments
Children & Families		2017/20	225		Grant
		2017/20	202		In Kind

7.3 **Human Resources:** There are no human resources issues within this report.

7.4 **Equality and Diversity:** There are no equality and diversity issues within this report.

7.5 **Repopulation:** There are no repopulation issues within this report.

7.6 **Inequalities:** There are no inequality issues within this report.

8.0 CONSULTATIONS

8.1 This report has been prepared by the Chief Officer, Inverclyde Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) after due consultation with partner organisations.

9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

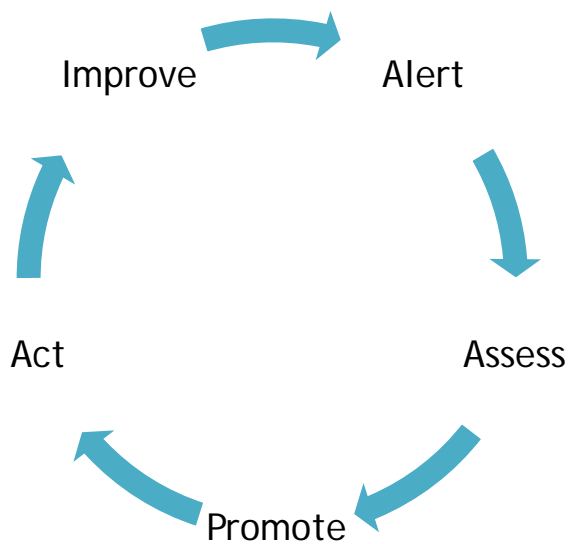
9.1 Corporate Parenting Plan.



Inverclyde

Corporate Parenting Strategy

2016 - 2019



Corporate Parenting:

“An organisation’s performance of actions necessary to uphold the rights and safeguard the wellbeing of a looked after child or care leaver, and through which physical, emotional, spiritual, social and educational development is promoted”

*Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 –
Statutory Guidance on Part 9:
Corporate Parenting*

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Version 1.0
Date: March 2016
Review date: March 2019
Produced by: Anne Glendinning
Approved by: HSCP Committee and IJB

Foreword

Getting it Right for Every Child offers a unique opportunity for all who work with children and young people; it offers a consistent approach for all to understand what children require to grow up safely. The wellbeing indicators provide for this, and give a common language to offer to help and support to those most in need; namely to children and young people who are looked after.

This is not the end of our professional responsibility, but simply the beginning because it raises a challenge to all of us who work within Inverclyde. It demands that we all deliver a coherent strategy across our Community Planning Partnerships to give our looked after children and young people hope for the future.

The Children & Young People (Scotland) Act 2014, places Corporate Parenting on a statutory footing. It provides a framework of new duties and responsibilities for Inverclyde Council and 23 other public bodies to deliver services that are child centred and improve their outcomes, through a more coordinated and collaborative approach.

With this in mind, Corporate Parenting means a collective responsibility of the council, elected members, employees and partner agencies to make Inverclyde the best place in Scotland to live, for our children and young people who are looked after and care leavers.

These Are Our Bairns : A Guide for Community Planning Partnerships (2008) shifted the emphasis from “corporate” to “parent “ with the challenge to take all actions necessary to promote and support the physical, emotional, social, spiritual and cognitive development of children from infancy to adulthood.

Every good parent wants the best for their child, to see them flourish with good health, to be safe and happy, to do well at school, to enjoy good relationships with their peers. Make the most of leisure opportunities, hobbies and interests, and grow towards adulthood equipped to lead independent lives and to make their way as adults either in higher education or in employment, so that they can have choices in their life.

This is the aspiration of “Nurturing Inverclyde” where we accept the responsibility for our children, young people and care leavers to make the upholding of their rights, their safeguarding and wellbeing needs our priority.

Aubrey Fawcett
Chief Executive

Stephen McCabe
Leader of the Council

WELCOME.



Our vision is that Inverclyde is the best place in Scotland for children, young people and their families to live and it is our mission to ensure that nurturing approaches to service delivery will give all of our children and young people the best possible start in life.

Inverclyde Corporate Parenting Strategy sets out our aspiration to make a positive difference in the lives of Inverclyde's looked after children, young people and care experienced along with the actions we will take to meet our corporate parenting responsibilities.

Throughout this strategy the term care experienced refers to all looked after children, young people and care leavers irrespective of their placement and legal status.

Corporate Parenting

What is Corporate Parenting?

Inverclyde's definition of Corporate Parenting is set out in the Scottish Government's statutory Guidance 2015 "An organisations performance of actions necessary to uphold the rights and safeguard the wellbeing of looked after children or care leavers and through which physical, emotional, spiritual, social and educational development is promoted."

Who are Inverclyde's Corporate Parents?

When a children and young people become looked after the responsibility for parenting becomes a duty of everyone working for the council along with our community planning partners. This includes agencies who do not directly work with children. Good corporate parents take responsibility for promoting the wellbeing of all care experienced children and young people by working collaboratively to reduce barriers and inequalities experienced by looked after children throughout their care journey.

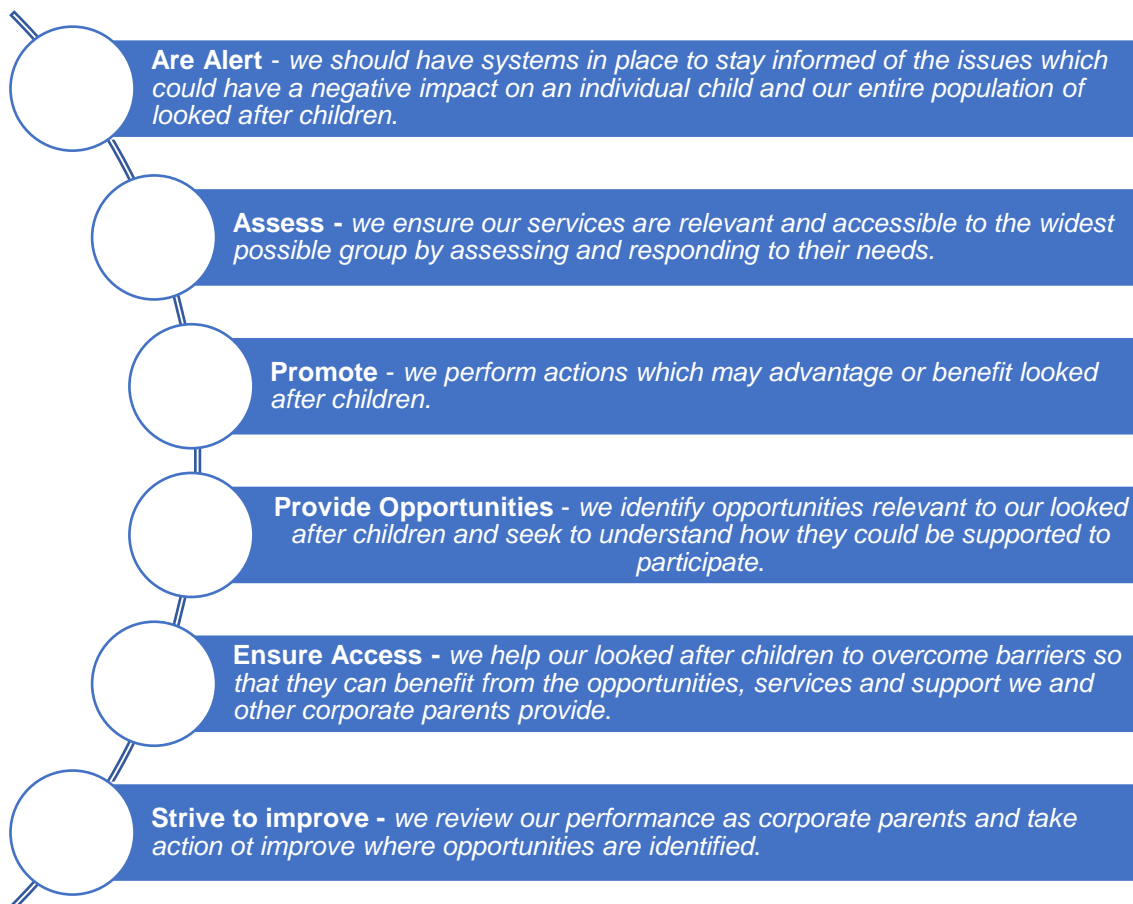


A full list of all corporate parents as described in schedule 4 of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 can be found at appendix A

Meeting our Corporate Parenting Duties and Responsibilities

All corporate parents are required to prepare and publish plans which detail how they will fulfil their duties as Corporate Parents.

Part 9 Section 58 Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 sets out the key responsibilities of Corporate Parents and the legal duties that every Corporate Parent must fulfil:



Section 60 of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 sets out the requirement for collaborative working by Corporate Parents when exercising their responsibilities to support, safeguard or promote the wellbeing of care experienced children this includes:

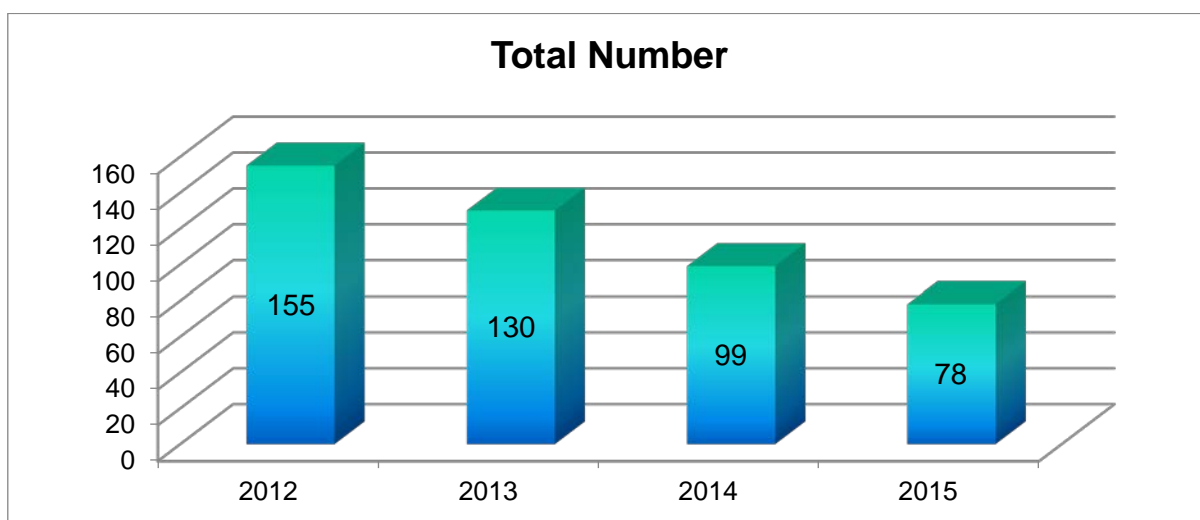
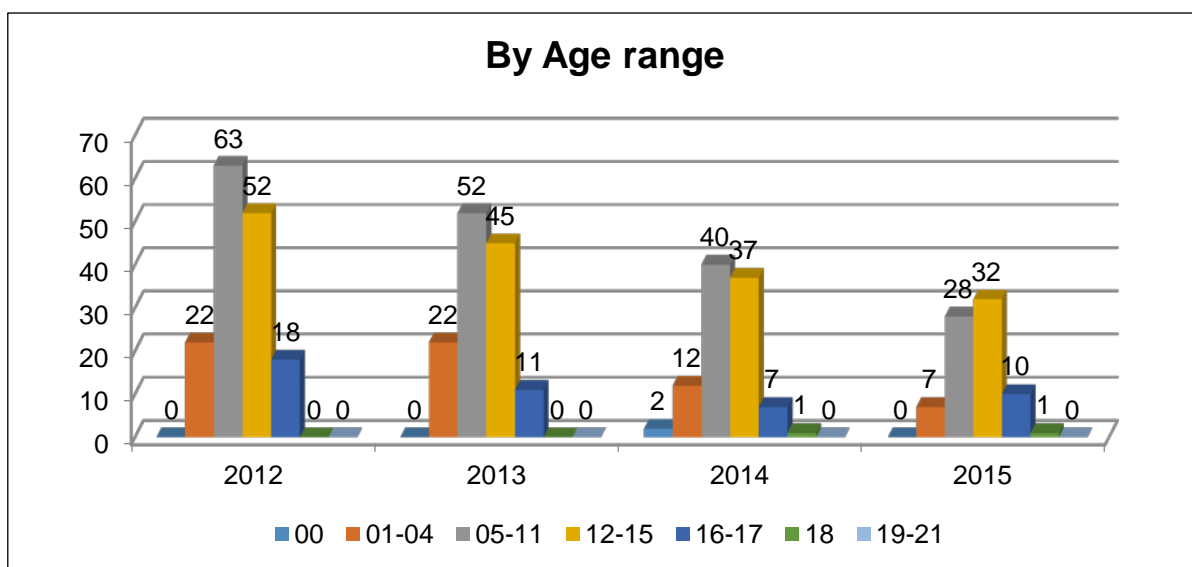
- *Sharing information*
- *Providing advice or assistance*
- *Coordinating activities (and seeking to prevent unnecessary duplication)*
- *Sharing responsibility for action*
- *Funding activities jointly*
- *Exercising functions jointly (e.g. joint plan, joint reporting)*

Who are our Looked After and Care Experienced Children and Young People?

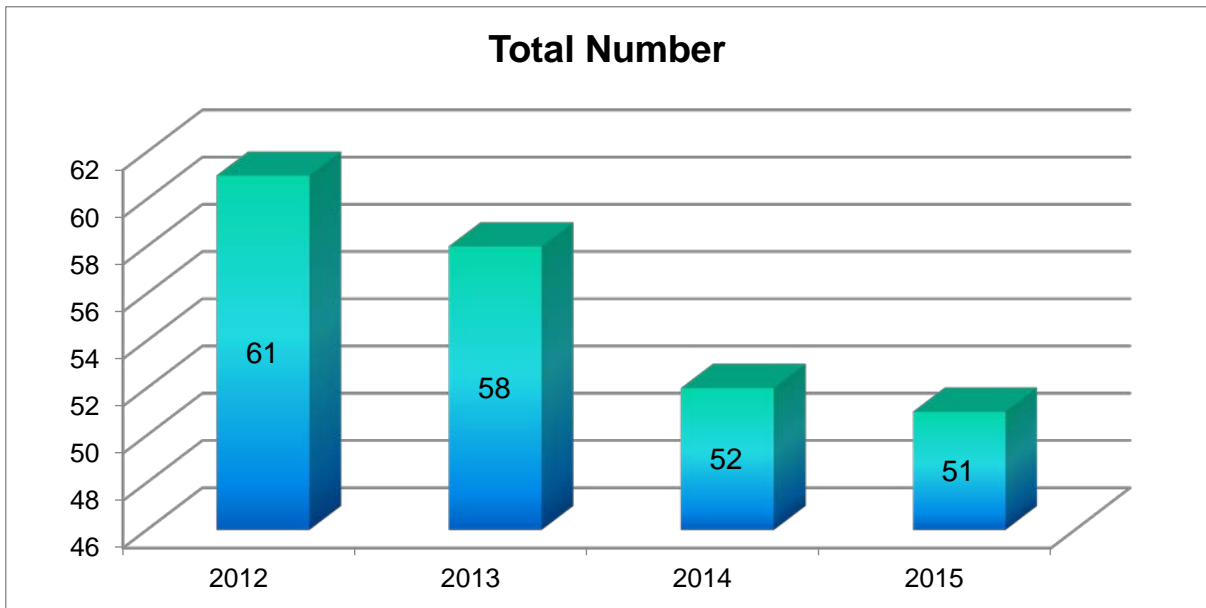
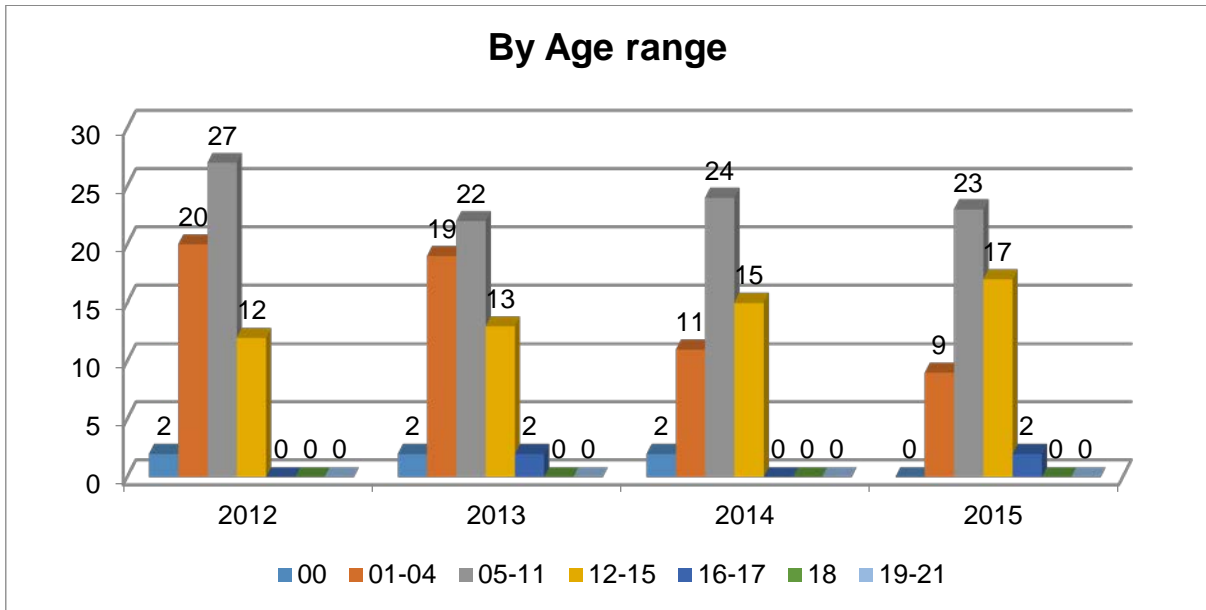
The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 brought about extensive changes in enabling us to better meet the needs of our looked after population in conjunction with a strong emphasis on improved planning that provides security and stability from birth until adulthood. This includes children who are looked after at home subject of compulsory supervision orders, children in foster placements, residential placements, secure care, formal kinship placements and children affected by disability who are looked after.

Data will be updated when the 2015/16 Children Looked After Survey (CLAS) is ratified and published by Scottish Government in March 2017.

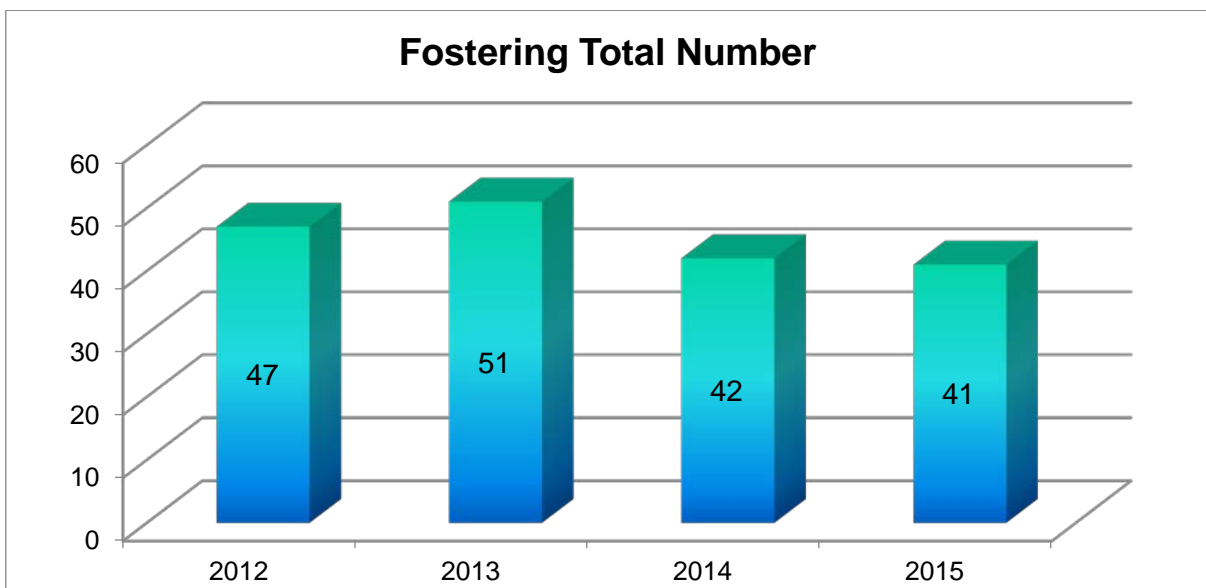
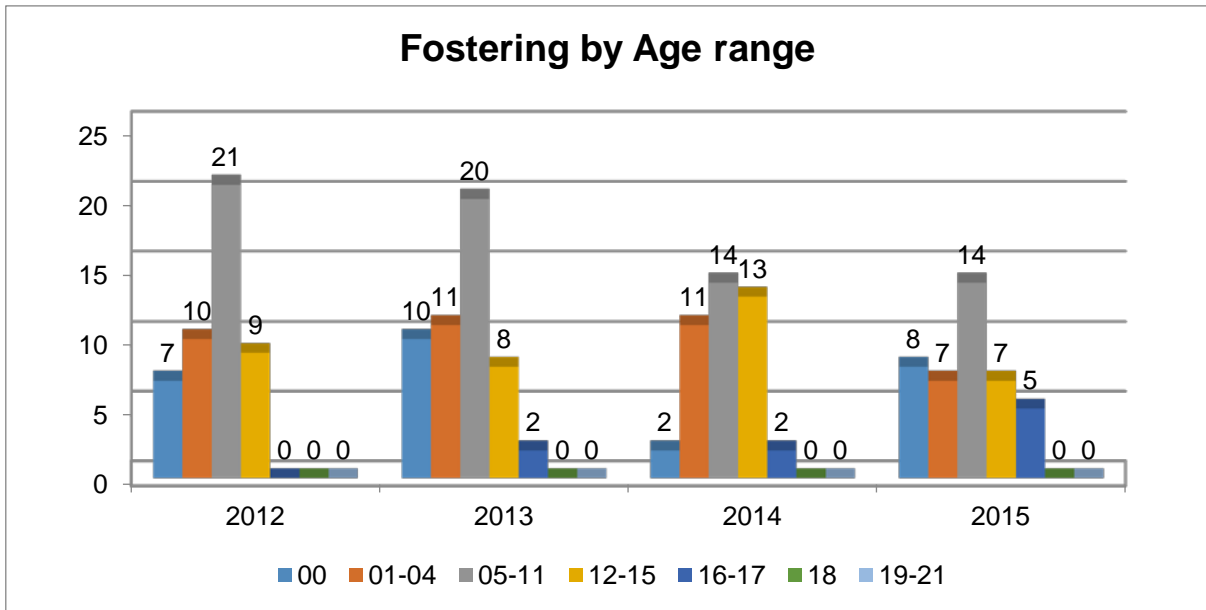
Looked After at Home



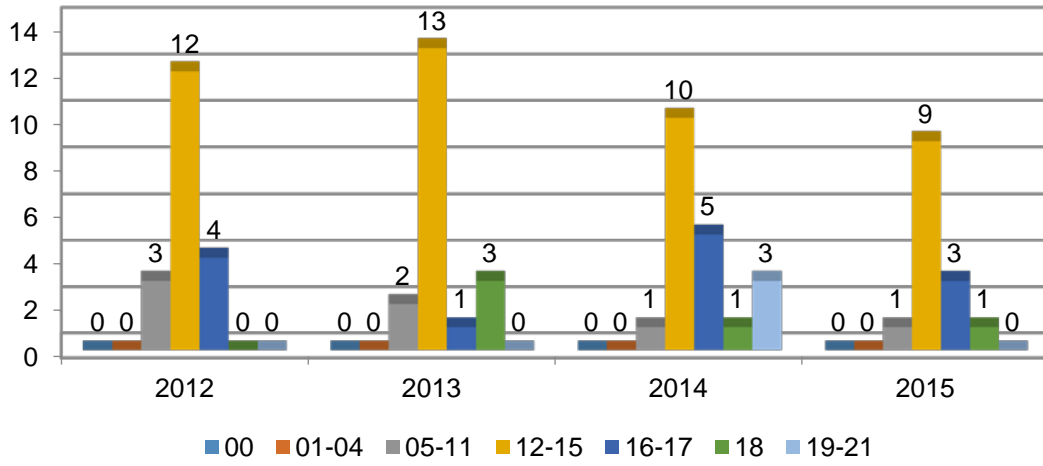
Looked After with Relatives/Friends



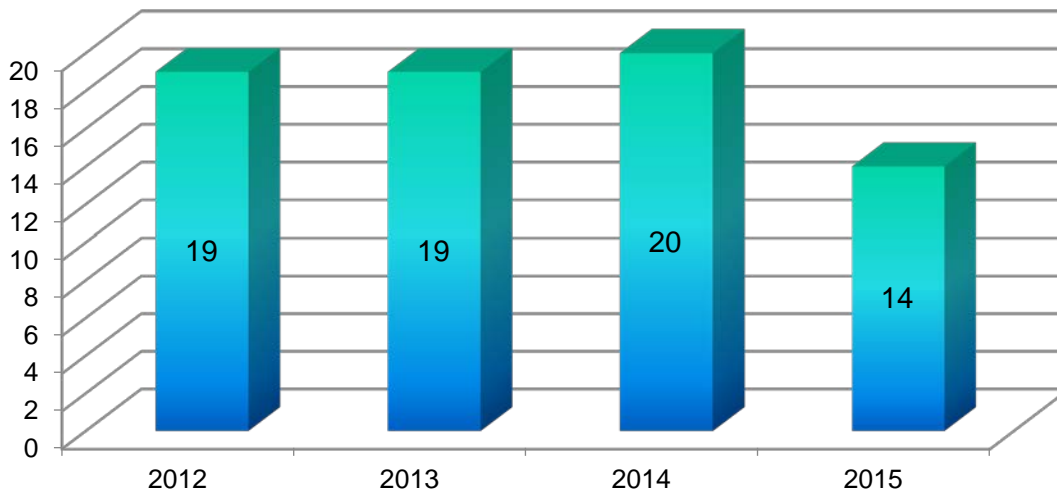
Fostering/Residential (Local)



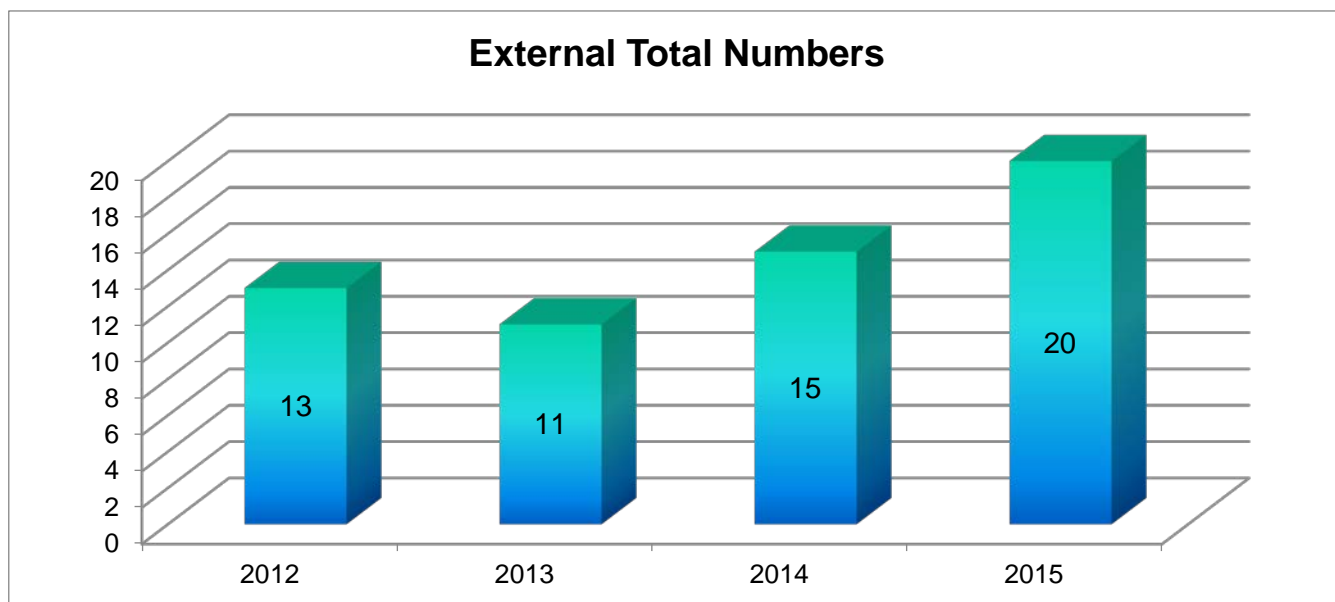
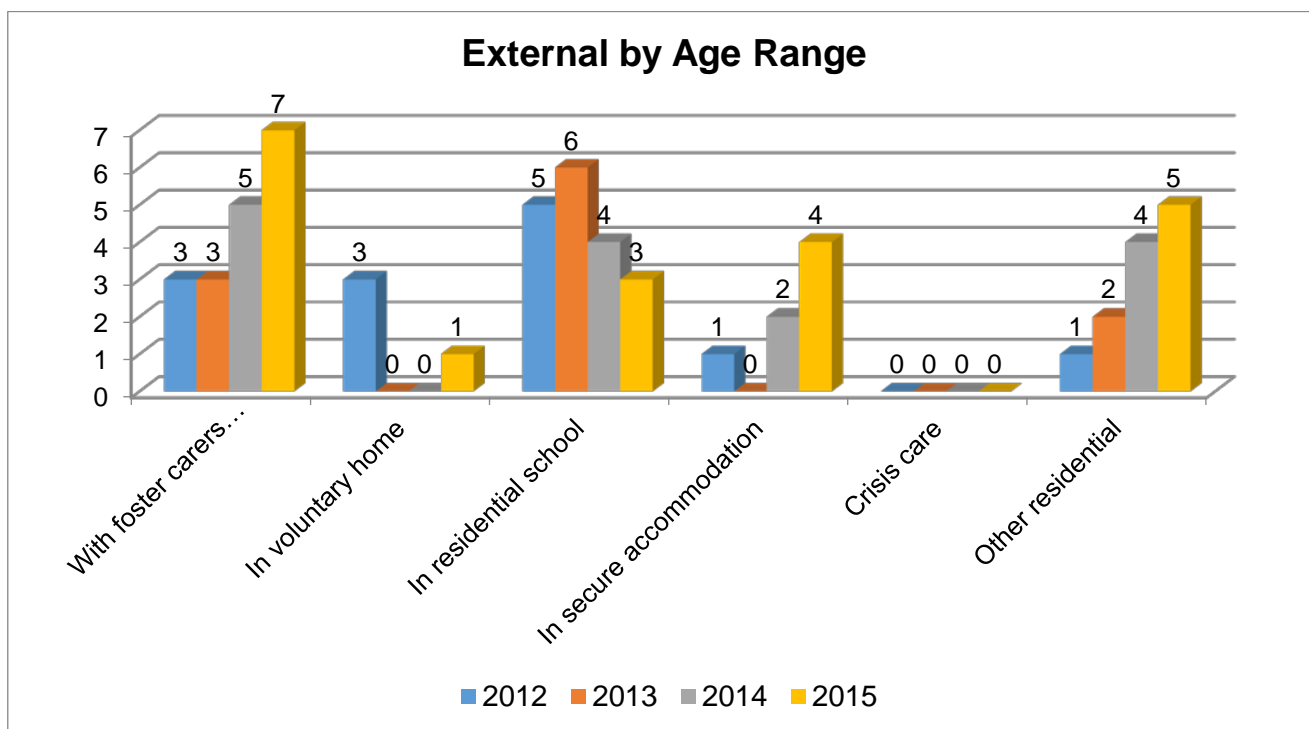
Residential by Age range



Residential Total Numbers

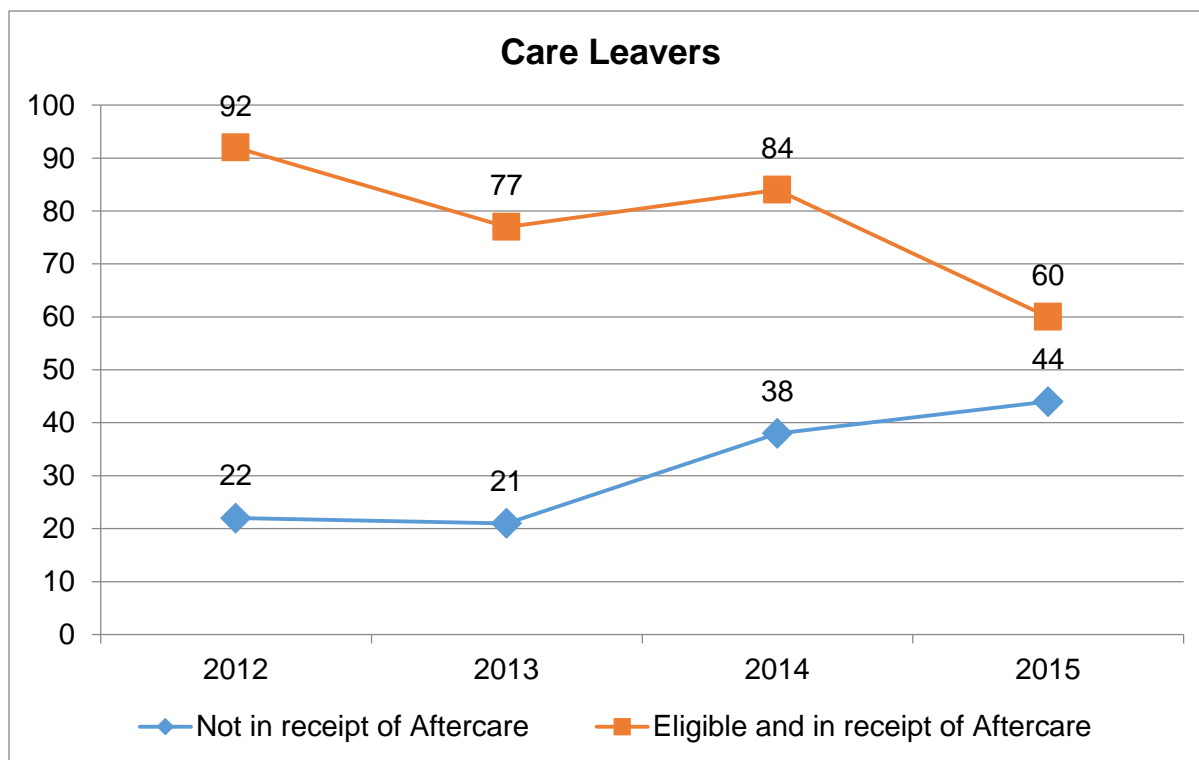


Fostering / Residential (External)



Care Leavers and Aftercare

The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 makes significant changes to those eligible for “Aftercare” and introduces the provision of “Continuing Care” for young people born after 1st April 1999. Eligible young people will have the right to remain in a residential placement, foster and kinship placement until their 21st birthday under Continuing Care and for those eligible After Care will extend until their 26th birthday. The principles set out by the Scottish Care Leavers Covenant will demonstrate our commitment as corporate parents to changing culture, practice and outcomes for care leavers.



Summary

As of 31st July 2015 there were 209 children and young people looked after by Inverclyde Council, with gender composition of 121 males and 88 females.

There were 182 children and young people in the following community placements:

- 78 looked after at home with parents
- 51 with friends and relatives (Kinship)
- 41 were in local foster placements
- 7 with foster placements purchased out with Inverclyde
- 5 with prospective adoptive parents

There were 27 children and young people in the following residential placements:

- 14 in local residential care home
- 3 in residential school placement
- 4 in secure care
- 6 in external residential care home

Of this number of children 185 (89%) were residing within Inverclyde and 24(11%) were residing out with Inverclyde

Developing the Strategy and Action Plan

Inverclyde's Community Planning Partnership is structured around six strategic outcome groups with an overall vision of "Getting it Right for Every Child, Citizen and Community". In developing this strategy and agreeing priority outcomes for our care experienced children and young people we have taken the following into account.

- Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014
- Inverclyde HSCP Strategic Needs Assessment
- Inverclyde Attainment Challenge
- Scottish Care Leavers Covenant
- Feedback from Inspections of our regulated residential childcare, fostering and adoption services
- Feedback from looked after children, parents and carers
- Consultation with corporate parents and community planning partners

This level of engagement has enabled us to better understand the needs of care experienced children and young people including the inequalities encountered throughout their care journey. In reaching agreement about how best to keep the needs of care experienced young people at the forefront we identified that a successful strategy required

- shared assessment and planning processes that are outcome focused
- shared understanding of early help, intervention and transition
- consistent data sharing
- collaborative approaches and participation

Informed by this we have identified four key Corporate Parenting priorities for Inverclyde:



Key Outcomes

In addition to championing Inverclyde's key corporate parenting priorities the establishment of the Champions Board will be enable the following outcomes to be delivered:

Outcome 1 (Participation)

Care experienced young people will benefit from participation in the Champions Board.

- Care experienced children and young people develop confidence and skills to influence policy and service delivery
- Care experienced children and young people become active contributors within their communities

Outcome 2 (Leadership)

Inverclyde Corporate Parents will strengthen their commitment, knowledge, skills and capacity.

- We will be in a position to demonstrate meaningful engagement in planning and supporting improvement
- Rights of care experienced children and young people will be recognised and promoted

Outcome 3 (Policy and Practice)

Inverclyde policy and practice becomes more responsive to care experienced children and young people

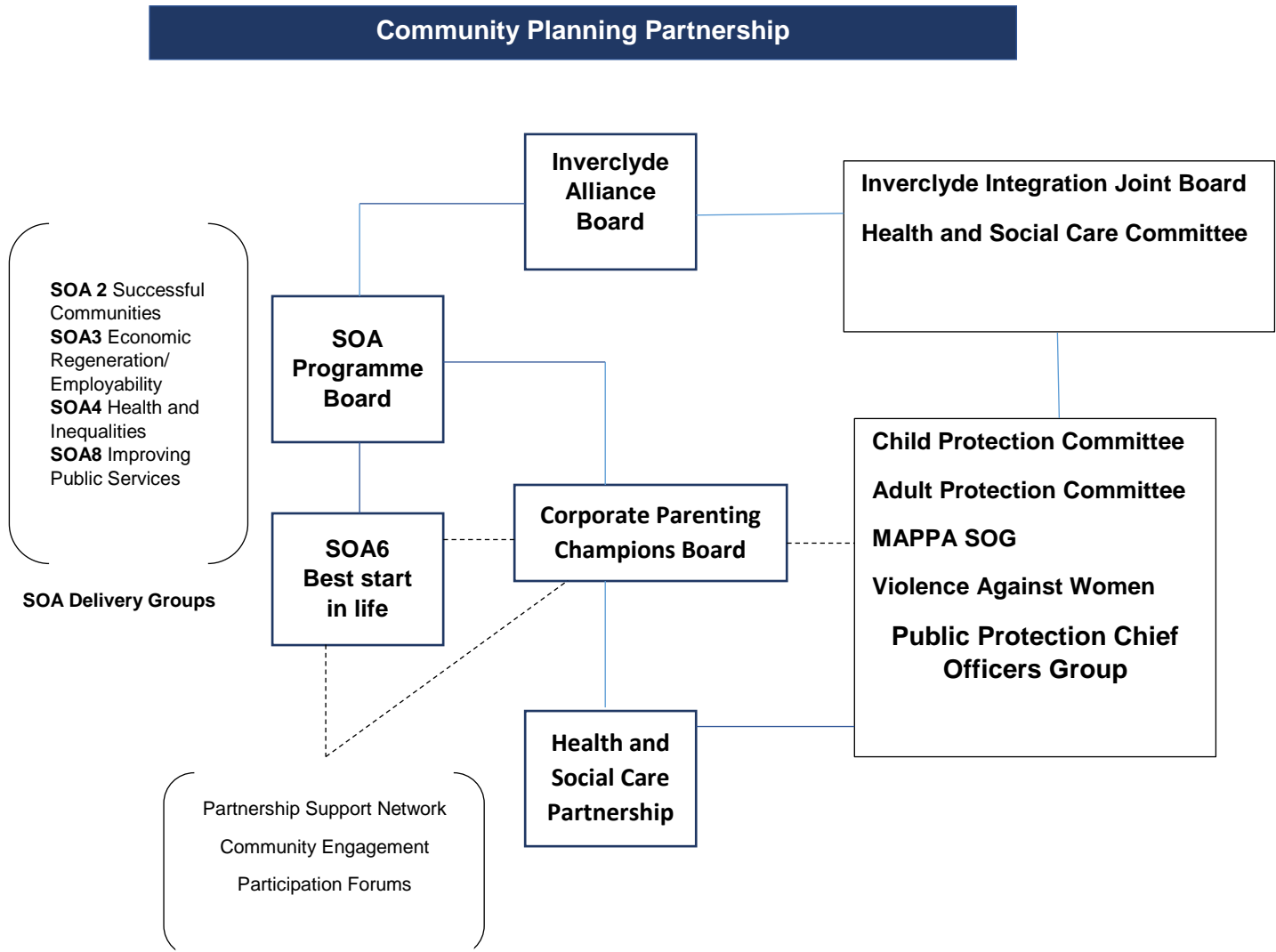
- Community planning partners will work effectively and collaboratively to implement agreed policy and practice
- Policy and practice will be increasingly responsive and interventions will identify and support areas of strength and need
- Improvements will be delivered through strong relationship based practice

Outcome 4 (Community Engagement)

Public awareness and attitudes become increasingly positive towards care experienced children and young people.

- Communities will be inspired in their engagement with and support care experienced children and young people.

Governance Structure



Information flow -----

Inverclyde’s Corporate Parenting Strategy and Action Plan will be aligned with the Inverclyde Single Outcome Agreement (SOA6) and Children’s Services Performance Improvement Planning Framework.

The Corporate Parenting Sub Group of SOA6 will be responsible for reporting on improved outcomes for care experienced children and young people and their families.

The Champions Board will form an integral link between the children and young people’s participation forums and SOA6.

APPENDIX A – List of Corporate Parents

The following are designated as corporate parents in Schedule 4 of the Children and Young Person (Scotland) Act 2014

The Scottish Ministers	A local authority	A health board
Children’s Hearings Scotland	The Principal Reporter	The Scottish Children’s Reporter Administration
A “post 16 education body” for the purposes of the Further and Higher Education (Scotland) Act 2005	A board constituted under the National Health Service (Scotland) Act 1978	Skills Development Scotland Co. Ltd (Registered Number SC202659)
The National Convener of Children’s Hearings Scotland	The Commissioner for Children and Young People in Scotland	Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland
The Scottish Social Services Council	The Scottish Sports Council	The Chief Constable of the Police Service of Scotland
Healthcare Improvement Scotland	The Scottish Police Authority	The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
The Scottish Legal Aid Board	The Mental Welfare Commission for Scotland	The Scottish Housing Regulator
Bord na Gaidhlig	Creative Scotland	The Scottish Qualifications Authority



APPENDIX B - Corporate Parenting Action Plan

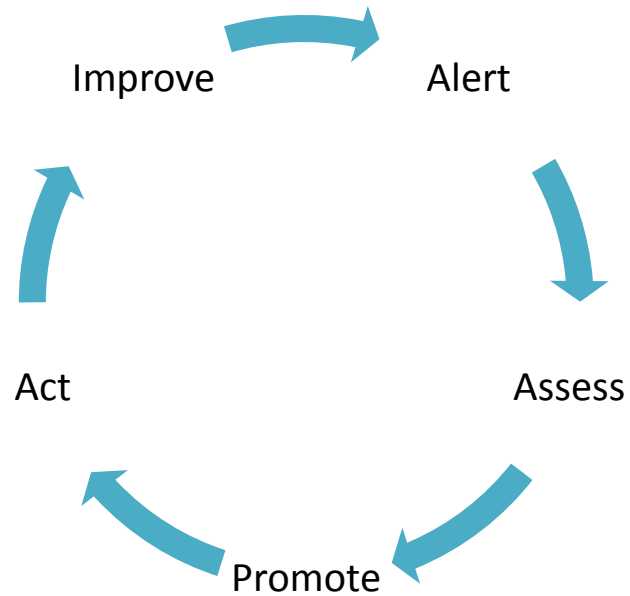
Community Planning Partnership's vision is to:
'Getting it Right for Every Child, Citizen and Community'

Through **Nurturing** our children and young people we will ensure that they have the best possible start in life
 Our principle is that all children and young people have a right to be listened to and to be involved in the planning, provision and evaluation of services they need. (Inverclyde Youth Participation Strategy 2016-2019)

National Outcome	SOA Outcome	Wellbeing Indicator
We have improved the life chances for children, young people and families (at risk)	SOA 2 Communities are stronger, responsible and more able to identify, articulate and take action on their needs and aspirations to bring about an improvement in the quality of community life.	Safe - Protected from abuse, neglect or harm and supported when at risk. Enabled to understand and take responsibility for actions and choices. Having access to a safe environment to live and learn in.
We live longer, healthier lives.	SOA 4 The health of local people is improved, combating health inequality and promoting health lifestyles	Healthy - Achieve high standards of physical and mental health and equality of access to suitable health care and protection, while being supported and encouraged to make healthy and safe choices.
We are better educated, more skilled and more successful, renowned for our research and innovation	SOA 8 All children, citizens and communities in Inverclyde play an active in nurturing	Active – Being supported and guided in lifelong learning. Having opportunities for the development of skills and knowledge to gain the highest standards of achievement in educational establishments, work, leisure or the community.
Our children have the best start in life and are ready to succeed	SOA 6 A nurturing Inverclyde gives all our children and young people the best start in life	Nurtured - Having a nurturing place to live and learn, and the opportunity to build positive relationships within a supporting and supported community.
Our young people are successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens	SOA 7 All children, citizens and communities in Inverclyde play an active in nurturing the environment to make the area a sustainable and desirable place to live and visit	Achieving - Having opportunities to take part in activities and experiences in educational establishments and the community, which contribute to a healthy life, growth and development.
Our public services are high quality, continually improving, efficient and responsive to local people's needs.	SOA 8 Our public services are high quality, continually improving, efficient and responsive to local people's needs.	Respected and Responsible - Respected and share responsibilities. Citizens are involved in decision making and play an active role in improving the community.
We realise our full economic potential with more and better employment opportunities for our people.	SOA 3 The area's economic regeneration is secured, economic activity in Inverclyde is increased, and skill development enables both those in work and those furthest from the labour market to realise their full potential	Included - Overcoming social, educational, health and economic inequalities and being valued as part of the community.
We value and enjoy our built and natural environment and protect it and enhance it for future generations.		



Corporate Parenting Plan 2016 - 2019



Corporate Parenting:

“ An organisation’s performance of actions necessary to uphold the rights and safeguard the wellbeing of a looked after child or care leaver, and through which physical, emotional, spiritual , social and educational development is promoted”

Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 – Statutory Guidance on Part 9: Corporate Parenting

Inverclyde

INVERCLYDE
HSCP

We live longer, healthier lives

Strategic Priority Area	CP Duty SCLC Policy Link	Outcome/s	Actions to be progressed	Lead Agency Lead Officer	Where are we now	RAG
Health and Wellbeing	Part 9 Duties - Corporate Parents are alert to any risks to wellbeing faced by looked after children and care leavers, their needs are assessed and they can access relevant services and supports Raising Attainment Wellbeing Indicators - Safe, Healthy, Nurtured	Looked after children and care experienced young people will have improved physical emotional and mental wellbeing and mental health wellbeing	The health needs of children and young people will be assessed and reviewed by a medical practitioner in a timely way.	HSCP	Vulnerable child pathway implemented	
			All looked after children, young people and care leavers are registered with GP and dentist	HSCP		
			Timely access to mental health services	HSCP		
			Established access pathways between CAHMS/LAC Health Team /Specialist Children's Health Services	HSCP	Single point of access established. Universal pathway linking to pathways for vulnerability /disability/ mental health	
			Effective inter-authority liaison to ensure consistent access to health supports for external placements Emotional wellbeing is identified and supported through trained staff (5 to Thrive) in schools under the Inverclyde Attainment Challenge. Nurturing Playgrounds support safe, emotionally included and physical activity through trained staff in attachment.	HSCP Education		



Our young people are successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens

Strategic Priority	CP Duty SCLC	Outcome/s	Actions to be progressed	Lead Agency	Where are we now	RAG
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Area	Policy Link			Lead Officer		
Learning. Achievement & Skills for Life	Part 9 Duties - looked after children and young people have opportunities to participate in activities designed to promote their wellbeing	All Looked after children benefit from engaging and aspirational educational experiences which meet their developmental needs and helps them to fulfil their potential	Inverclyde's most vulnerable children are supported through focussed approaches to improve numeracy and literacy under Inverclyde's Attainment Challenge. They have individualised plans promoted through primary1, 2 and 3. This is evaluated through learning and assessment to evaluate the impact. Ensure the ASN Forum meets and ensures plans and resources align to meet assessed wellbeing needs	Education		
	Wellbeing Indicators - Achieving, Respected, Included Inverclyde Attainment Challenge	Looked after children experience the same positive educational attainments and outcomes as their peers - including increasing the numbers of Looked after young people who engage, sustain and successfully complete further education	Review of all LAC educational plans as contained in the Child's Plan (through monitoring and review by Quality Assurance in social work and Education services - jointly reviewing data sets	HSCP Education		
		Care experienced young people experience a sense of 'connection and belonging to their named school and are supported to participate in the full life of the school.	Effective monitoring and reporting of looked after children and young people who are excluded or on 'part time timetables' and the reasons why; with appropriate actions to address school inclusion issues	Education		

We are better educated, more skilled and more successful, renowned for our research and innovation

Strategic Priority Area	CP Duty SCLC Policy Link	Outcome/s	Actions to be progressed	Lead Agency Lead Officer	Where are we now	RAG
Learning Achievement & Skills for Life	Part 9 Duties - looked after children and care leavers have opportunities to participate in activities designed to promote their wellbeing Wellbeing Indicators - Achieving, Respected, Included	Looked after young people and care leavers have access to a range of post school options	Guidance staff focus with the young person on transition and skills for life as part of educational curriculum	Education		
		Care experienced young people have equal opportunities within education and training.	Develop the range of opportunities to involve both Further Education and employment options -	SDS Education West College		
		Promote and achieve positive destinations for all looked after and care experienced young people	Develop and implement employment /training which includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Placements / taster sessions • Training / awareness for staff in all settings to support young person • Meaningful employment options • Training schemes to extend criteria to include more vulnerable young people • Positive recruitment (care experienced) 	SDS MCMC		

We value and enjoy our built and natural environment and protect it and enhance it for future generations


Strategic Priority Area	CP Duty SCLC Policy Link	Outcome/s	Actions to be progressed	Lead Agency Lead Officer	Where are we now	RAG
Housing & Accommodation	<p>Part 9 Duties - looked after children and care leavers have opportunities to participate in activities designed to promote their wellbeing</p> <p>Wellbeing Indicators - Safe, Nurtured, Respected, Included</p> <p>Strategic Housing Implementation Plan Staying Put</p>	<p>Improved range of, and access to, needs-led housing and accommodation options, with integrated person-centred support.</p> <p>Reduce the number of homeless applications by care leavers</p>	<p>Full implementation of <u>Housing Options Protocols for Care Leavers</u></p> <p><u>Looked After and Care leavers are fully aware of right to "Continuing Care" and "Aftercare"</u></p> <p><u>Mechanisms to convert foster carer to supported carers and develop options for suitable continuing care placements</u></p> <p>Designated and dedicated lead officer in housing to be identified Housing Social Landlords.</p>	Housing Partnership Group		
		<p>Young people are supported to sustain tenancies and accommodation within their own community</p>	<p>Improved liaison re advice, guidance and access to housing accommodation and support options -</p> <p>Introduce joint interviews process for care leavers with Housing & TCAC staff re housing applications</p> <p>Develop a Multi-Agency Transitions Forum to coordinate housing and accommodation resource planning; and track and monitor supports outcomes.</p> <p>Joint training between SW/TCAC and housing staff.</p>	Housing Partnership Group		

	Part 9 Duties - Improve	Inverclyde has a strong corporate parenting culture which is 'owned' from the top down and demonstrated at all levels of the organisation	<p>Systems of accountability review the performance of Corporate Parents at Chief Officer level.</p> <p>Senior managers will continue to promote a shared understanding of issues, challenges and opportunities.</p> <p>Leadership is encouraged, enabled and demonstrated at all levels of the organisation</p>	SOA 6 Champions Board		
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Our public services are high quality, continually improving, efficient and responsive to local people's needs

Strategic Priority Area	CP Duty SCLC Policy Link	Outcome/s	Actions to be progressed	Lead Agency Lead Officer	Where are we now	RAG
Rights and Participation	Part 9 Duties - looked after children and care leavers have opportunities to participate in activities designed to promote their wellbeing Wellbeing Indicators - Respected, Included	LA/CLs have access to decision makers to influence policy, strategy and practice	Develop Corporate Parenting Champions Board - seek additional funding from Life Changes Trust to develop Champs Board model and implementation. Link to Life Changes Trust and Scottish Care Leavers Covenant work Inverclyde can evidence impact of views and input of YP of services	HSCP	Young people's participation group established Application to Life Changes Trust submitted.	
	Part 9 Duties - looked after children and care leavers have opportunities to participate in activities designed to promote their wellbeing Wellbeing Indicators - Respected, Included	Young people voices and views are at the heart of decision making - YP /parents /carers report that meetings and processes are inclusive	LAC review format to be reviewed	HSCP		
			Independent advocacy is available to all care experienced children	Who Care's Barnardos	In place	
			Inverclyde work in partnership with CHS & SCRA to strengthen links and ensure meetings, systems and processes maintain focus on young person	HSCP SCRA		
			SW assessments and recommendations are evidence-informed and practice issues are reviewed at quarterly meetings with local Reporter	HSCP Scottish Reporter		
	Promoting equality of opportunities at key transitions points, for example in moves through education and through childhood to adulthood	Develop tool box for practitioners/agencies Adult services have awareness of transitions have systems in place to identify care leavers	HSCP Education			

Our public services are high quality, continually improving, efficient and responsive to local people's needs

Strategic Priority Area	CP Duty SCLC Policy Link	Outcome/s	Actions to be progressed	Lead Agency Lead Officer	Where are we now	RAG
Leadership and Governance	Part 9 Duties – Improve	Inverclyde Corporate Parents will strengthen their commitment, knowledge, skills and capacity. We will be in a position to demonstrate meaningful engagement in planning and supporting improvement Rights of care experienced children and young people will be recognised and promoted	Engagement sessions to be arranged across the partnership.  Scottish_Care_Leavers_Covenant.pdf			
	Part 9 Duties – Improve	Inverclyde develop and implement appropriate tracking and monitoring to capture outcomes for looked after young people and care leavers into adulthood	Agree a data set that reviews areas of success and areas for improvement. Improve co-ordination of service delivery to meet the unmet needs of LAC and CL	HoS & QA HoS/L&D HoS /QA		
	Part 9 Duties – Improve	Inverclyde develop, implement and apply regular data collection and analysis to inform service development e.g. case file audit	Case file audit process to be embedded in practice and used to monitor and review and inform planning through monthly practice reflections.	HoS & QA HoS/L&D HoS /QA	Rolled out on the 1st July 2016	
	P9. Duties - Alert Assess Collaborate	All staff have shared understanding of criteria/thresholds/triggers for assessment and intervention based on needs of child and young person. These are	Using case file audit information to ensure consistent application of practice and intervention standards Develop agreed	HoS & QA HoS/L&D HoS /QA		

		consistently applied within and across key agencies.	practice standards Joint Learning and Development to implement and monitor Learning and Development inputs to relevant staff combined with regular professional support and supervision			
Part 9 Duties – Improve	All staff demonstrate confidence and consistency in assessment and care planning and intervention based on evidence-informed practice.	Regular review of trends and issues based on ongoing case audit process to inform service development and delivery to enable services to be aligned to meet current and future need	HoS & QA HoS/L&D HoS /QA			
Part 9 Duties – Improve	Effective proactive care planning processes in place for all children , young people and care leavers	Pathways and transition plans in place for all looked after young people and care leavers; regularly reviewed	HoS & QA HoS/L&D HoS /QA			
Part 9 Duties: Improve Collaborate	Inverclyde will be able to report on the implementation of its Corporate Parenting Plan, by collating and analysing accurate meaningful data to informing and drive improvements on key activities and outcomes	Develop and implement Corporate Parenting 'Health Check' through QA quarterly reporting based on Inverclyde Children and Families Quality Assurance and Improvement Framework.	HoS/QA			