

<b>Meeting of South Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership</b>	<b>Strategic Planning Advisory Group</b>	
<b>Held on</b>	<b>Wednesday 23 February 2022</b>	
<b>Agenda Item:</b>	<b>4</b>	
<b>Title:</b>	<b>South Ayrshire's Parenting Promise 2021-30</b>	
<b>Summary:</b>		
<p>The purpose of this report is to provide an update to the South Ayrshire Strategic Planning Advisory Group on South Ayrshires Parenting Promise covering the period 2021 to 2030. The Parenting Promise is South Ayrshire's Corporate Parenting Plan for the next 3 years and will form the basis of our Corporate Parenting commitments until 2030, as we implement the Promise.</p>		
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Dawn Parker, Corporate Parenting Lead Officer</b>	
<b>Recommendations:</b>		
<p>It is recommended that the Strategic Planning Advisory Group</p> <p>i. Notes the publication of South Ayrshire's Parenting Promise 2021-2030 and associated action plan.</p>		
<b>Route to meeting:</b>		
<b>Directions:</b>		
1. No Directions Required	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
2. Directions to NHS Ayrshire & Arran	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3. Directions to South Ayrshire Council	<input type="checkbox"/>	
4. Directions to both SAC & NHS	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Implications:</b>		
	Financial	<input type="checkbox"/>
	HR	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Legal	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Equalities	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Sustainability	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Policy	<input type="checkbox"/>
	ICT	<input type="checkbox"/>

## SOUTH AYRSHIRE'S PARENTING PROMISE 2021-30

### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update to the South Ayrshire Strategic Planning Advisory Group on South Ayrshire's Parenting Promise covering the period 2021 to 2030. The Parenting Promise is South Ayrshire's Corporate Parenting Plan for the next 3 years and will form the basis of our Corporate Parenting commitments until 2030, as we implement the Promise.

### 2. RECOMMENDATION

#### **2.1 It is recommended that the Strategic Planning Advisory Group:**

- i. Notes the publication of South Ayrshire's Parenting Promise 2021-2030 and associated action plan.**

### 3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 South Ayrshire first developed a Corporate Parenting Strategy in 2009 which was refreshed for 2013-15. Then, from 2015, corporate parenting was considered in a Strategy for Looked After Children that linked to South Ayrshire's Integrated Children's Services Plan and South Ayrshire's Corporate Parenting Plan 2018-21 was approved by the Integration Joint Board in December 2018. The Parenting Promise (South Ayrshire's rebranded Corporate Parenting Plan) was presented to the Community Planning Executive in a bespoke workshop in December 2021 where it was approved by the Executive in principle.
- 3.2 To demonstrate the fundamentals of ['The Promise'](#) and reflect the views of children and young people, we chose to name our new Corporate Parenting plan 'South Ayrshire's Parenting Promise.' This reflects the plan's close alignment with The Promise and the challenge from children and young people on using language which is clear and relatable.
- 3.3 South Ayrshire's Parenting Promise aligns with the timeline of The Promise setting actions across short (2021-24), medium (2025-27) and long-term (2028-30). To meet our statutory duty of producing a "Corporate Parenting Plan" every three years, the Parenting Promise will be reviewed every 3 years with a clear emphasis on the actions aligned to the [Plan 21-24](#).
- 3.4 In 2021 the SPAG agreed that our Parenting Promise 2021-2030 should be aligned to the Community Planning Partnership. This decision was made on the basis that Corporate Parenting activity aligns with Children's Services Planning which is an integrated strategic delivery partnership under Community Planning governance structures. Progress reports for noting will be presented to the IJB.
- 3.5 Corporate parenting is given the utmost importance in South Ayrshire. A focus on corporate parenting and supporting care experienced children and young

people is given strategic priority across our key plans and strategies, for example:

- A strategic priority of the [Children's Services Plan 2020-2023](#) is to 'Love and Support our Care Experienced Young People and Young Carers';
- The [Council Plan 2018-2022](#) also identifies working 'closely with partners to support looked after children and young people and young carers to reach their potential' as a priority; and
- South Ayrshire's [Local Outcomes Improvement Plan](#) identifies 'improving outcomes for care experienced children and care leavers' as a key priority of the Community Planning Partnership.

3.6 Corporate Parenting represents the principles and duties on which improvements can be made for children in care. The term refers to an organisation's performance in taking actions necessary to uphold the rights and secure the wellbeing of a child in care or care leaver, and through which physical, emotional, spiritual, social, and educational development is promoted, from infancy through to adulthood. It is a role which should complement and support the actions of parents, families, and carers, working with key adults to deliver positive change for vulnerable children.

#### 4. [REPORT](#)

4.1 With the publication of the [Independent Care Review](#) findings and the incorporation of the [United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child](#) (UNCRC) into domestic law, it is a particularly relevant time to update the Corporate Parenting Plan with both '[The Promise](#)' and the UNCRC underpinning the new Plan.

4.2 South Ayrshire's Parenting Promise was written by a multi-agency group, representing a broad section of services and agencies working within South Ayrshire. It is written directly to young people and families in softer language and includes a 'key points' box at the end of each section to make it as accessible as possible. An Easy Read version and two short animations have been produced and shared through social media

4.3 The associated action plan includes South Ayrshire's 10 promise actions 21-24 alongside other corporate parenting actions. We recognise that a clear reporting process and feedback loop are essential to ensure that we learn along the way and can change course when needed. It is important that young people with care experience, their families and the wider workforce continue to influence the plan and that engagement is ongoing and not just part of the strategy development phase.

4.4 South Ayrshire's Parenting Promise has now been formally approved by the Community Planning Partnership. Progress on the Parenting Promise will be reported through the Children's Service's Planning Group (as a Strategic Delivery Partnership of the Community Planning Partnership). Performance reports will continue to be presented to the IJB's Performance and Audit Committee.

## **5. STRATEGIC CONTEXT**

5.1 Supporting our care experienced young people and implementing our corporate parenting duties are vital to driving our strategic objectives and improving outcomes for the community. The IJB Strategic Plan outlines seven key objectives, and the Parenting Promise aligns clearly with these.

## **6. IMPLICATIONS**

### **6.1 Financial Implications**

6.1.1 There ultimately will be significant financial implications of the Parenting Promise and these implications will be brought to the Community Planning Executive and IJB as appropriate.

### **6.2 Human Resource Implications**

6.2.1 There are no HR implications to agreeing this report.

### **6.3 Legal Implications**

6.3.1 There are no legal implications to agreeing this report.

### **6.4 Equalities implications**

6.4.1 A full equality impact assessment and children's rights impact assessment has been undertaken on the Parenting Promise.

### **6.5 Sustainability implications**

6.5.1 There are no sustainability implications to agreeing this report.

### **6.6 Clinical/professional assessment**

6.6.1 The views of professional groups and corporate parents have been taken into consideration in the development of the Parenting Promise.

## **7. CONSULTATION AND PARTNERSHIP WORKING**

7.1 A draft version of South Ayrshire's Parenting Promise was made available on the [South Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership website](#) alongside draft versions of the summary and Easy Read documents. An online survey was launched to gather feedback on the draft documents and was shared with the public, corporate parents and other partners. The survey was promoted through South Ayrshire Council and HSCP platforms as well as the Champions Board social media accounts. Two virtual workshops were also held by Voluntary Action South Ayrshire (VASA) aimed at third sector, private sector and community partners, in August and September 2021. A partnership approach

will be further developed with all stakeholders through the implementation of our action plan.

## **8. RISK ASSESSMENT**

8.1. There is no risk associated with noting this report.

### **REPORT AUTHOR AND PERSON TO CONTACT**

Name: Mark Inglis – Head of Childrens Health, Care and Justice Services  
Phone number: 01292 616437  
Email address: [Mark.Inglis@south-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:Mark.Inglis@south-ayrshire.gov.uk)

### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

The Promise, Independent Care Review (2020)  
<https://www.carereview.scot/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/The-Promise.pdf>

Plan 21-24, The Promise  
<https://thepromise.scot/plan-21-24-pdf-standard.pdf>

Change Programme One  
<https://thepromise.scot/change-programme-one/>

United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child  
<https://www.gov.scot/policies/human-rights/childrens-rights/>

**Date of Report: 7 February 2022**