

Meeting of South Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership	Performance & Audit Committee
Held on:	28th February 2023
Agenda Item:	7
Title:	Progress Report on Young Carers Strategy 2021-2026
Summary:	
<p>The purpose of this report is to provide an update to the Performance and Audit Committee on the progress of the actions contained within the Young Carers Strategy.</p>	
Author:	Claire Flanagan – Young Carers Strategy Lead Officer
Recommendations:	
<p>It is recommended that the Performance and Audit Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Note the updated action plan attached at Appendix 1 and ii. provide any comment in relation to this progress. 	
Route to meeting:	
<p>Third progress report submitted to the Performance and Audit Committee. The Young Carers Strategy was approved at the meeting of the Integration Joint Board on 12 February 2021.</p>	
Implications:	
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"/>

PROGRESS REPORT ON YOUNG CARERS STRATEGY 2021-2026

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update to the Performance and Audit Committee on the progress of the actions contained within the Young Carers Strategy.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Performance and Audit Committee
- i. Note the updated action plan attached at Appendix 1 and
 - ii. provide any comment in relation to this progress.

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 The Carers Scotland Act (2016) sets out statutory requirements for Health Boards and Local Authorities to develop local Carers and Young Carers Strategies. The legal duties were subsequently delegated to Health and Social Care Partnerships across Scotland.
- 3.2 The Act sets out duties as regards to young carers which are:
- A duty to prepare and review Young Carer Statements;
 - Establishment of local eligibility criteria for services for young carers;
 - A duty to provide support;
 - A duty to involve young carers in the planning of services;
 - A duty to establish and maintain an information service for carers and to produce a short break services statement; and
 - A duty to develop local carers' strategies
- 3.3 A decision was taken in South Ayrshire to develop discrete Adult and Young Carers Strategies albeit recognising the need for significant linkage. South Ayrshire IJB approved the Adult Carers Strategy (2019-24) in 2019.
- 3.4 The Young Carers Strategy was developed through consultation with young carers, organisations and professions supporting young carers and the wider Integrated Children's Service Planning and Community Planning groupings.
- 3.5 The Strategy is based on the requirements of the Carers Scotland Act (2016) but most significantly the needs and concerns raised through the engagement with local young carers.

- 3.6 The Young Carers Strategy and associated Implementation Plan was approved by the [Integration Joint Board on 12 February 2021](#). This paper provides an update on the progress made against all areas of the Action Plan, in keeping with the IJB's agreement to remit monitoring of delivery to the Performance and Audit Committee.
- 3.7 The Implementation Plan is designed to take forward key strategic outcomes.
- 3.8 This report and the attached update, produced through the performance monitoring system (Pentana) (see Appendix 1), provides a further update on each individual action item contained within the Implementation Plan.

4. REPORT

- 4.1 It is proposed that the Performance and Audit Committee considers the progress that has been made against the actions set out in the Young Carers Strategy 2021-2026. The Strategy has now been in place for 18 months and early progress has been made to date.
- 4.2 A summary table is provided below:

Status	Number
✓ Completed	6
▶ On target	33
⚠ Showing some concerns	1
● Not on target	0
⚙ Not due to start	0
★ Superseded by new action/strategy	0

* Action 'Showing some concerns' delayed due to Covid.

- 4.3 The Performance and Audit Committee may wish to note the following highlights, under each of the Strategy's themes:
1. I am safe, healthy and active
 2. I am nurtured, achieving and respected
 3. I am responsible and included

I am safe, healthy and active

- 4.4 A Young Carers Champion (YCC) has been identified by most schools. This has been recognised as best practice at a national level. YCC is the point of contact within the school for HSCP and carers service staff and a known person for young people to approach for support relating to caring responsibilities.
- 4.5 Young Carers Strategy Lead Officer (YCSLO) presented to joint Head Teacher meeting to raise awareness of who a young carer is and the support available within South Ayrshire.

- 4.6 Young Carers film is complete and will be premiered on 21st February at Ayr Town Hall. Resources will accompany videos which will be produced in partnership with Thriving Communities Youth Workers. Videos will be used by schools and youth workers to raise awareness of young carers, increase self-identification, break down stigma, and improve peer understanding. This will replace S1 PSE lessons, so increase reach of awareness raising. A video suitable for primary school age and stage will be made by primary aged young carers, The Iris and Thriving Communities later this year, helping increase earlier identification and early intervention.
- 4.7 YCSLO is working with Ayrshire pharmacies to raise awareness and implement processes. Attended Lunch & Learn session October 2022 & provided resources to pharmacies to display. Established relationships which will help with roll out of Carer ID card in future, removing barriers for young carers collecting prescriptions.
- 4.8 Awareness raising session held for various social work teams, Thriving Communities locality teams in Ayr North and Carrick localities, Educational Psychology team, various 3rd Sector organisations, SDS team, and ADP/RecoveryAyr team.
- 4.9 Two new Young Carers Statements & comprehensive guidance documents developed in conjunction with young carers and practitioners. Will be launched at workshop event in 2023.
- 4.10 South Ayrshire has been chosen as one of 3 local authorities to pilot a national schools award (Carers Trust Scotland in conjunction with Scottish Government & Education Scotland). Preparation and school identification has begun, and work will take place school year 2023/24.
- 4.11 Developed & delivered a training package for Ayrshire College staff with colleagues from North and East Ayrshire, along with a series of posters to be displayed on all 3 Ayrshire College campuses.
- 4.12 YCSLO is working with Carers Trust Scotland to deliver a training session to all probationer teachers in the authority (primary and secondary) March 2023.
- 4.13 Completed awareness raising session with 2nd year teaching students at UWS with Carers Trust Scotland & East Renfrewshire Carers Centre.
- 4.14 Request to update SEEMiS to allow more robust and detailed information to be recorded for young carers. Awaiting implementation.
- 4.15 Education staff speed networking event held in Braehead Primary with 150 primary staff from all cluster primary schools & guidance staff from Belmont. Feedback from staff and organisations was overwhelmingly positive.
- 4.16 YCSLO presented to the South Ayrshire Trauma Network November 2022.

- 4.17 Awareness raising video created with pupils from Coylton, Dailly & Cairn Primary schools. This will remove barriers due to literacy issues and allow information to be shared in multiple locations (school social media, 3rd sector organisations etc.).
- 4.18 YCSLO had a market stall at the Love Learning Festival. This was a great opportunity to chat with cluster nurture staff and network with other organisations.
- 4.19 YCSLO attended Troon parents' health and wellbeing open day.
- 4.20 Whole school staff training set up in several primary and secondary schools (open to all schools).
- 4.21 Organising lunch time pupil events (Kyle, Carrick & Girvan Academies so far in March 2023) – marketplace set up where pupils (and staff) can come and chat about the service/ask questions. Improve visibility & reduce stigma.
- 4.22 Attending various PTA meetings/parent evenings/school fairs to raise awareness of young carers with parents, build relationships, and break down stigma/misinformation.
- 4.23 Worked with Muirhead Primary School and Barnardos on family pilot project (September 2022).
- 4.24 YCSLO presented to Young Carers Services Alliance (YCSA) Education Subgroup on education staff survey which has been identified as best practice. YCSLO invited to present young carer video to YCSA national conference as best practice example of working with young carers.
- 4.25 Carers Trust Scotland developed new national CPD module for education staff (Education Scotland/Scottish Government) and have asked to include our young carer video within the module.
- 4.26 Carer Positive Award awareness raising paper presented to the Community Planning Board. YCSLO met with various organisations following the Board meeting to discuss the award.
- 4.27 Working with Champions Board and Community, Learning & Development (CLD) to implement Dynamic Youth Award and Participatory Democracy Awards for Young Carers within the new Young Carers Voice Group (YCVG), video groups and other activities. All young people who participated in the video project have achieved a Dynamic Youth Award.
- 4.28 ASH Scotland training (developed with Carers Trust Scotland) has been offered to all staff working with Young Carers, with courses beginning after the summer holidays.
- 4.29 Worked with NHS (Dr Pamela Campbell), Active Schools and a focus group of young carers from Girvan Academy to develop a package of resources for

young carers' mental and physical health and wellbeing. The Self-Care Club is a day of training/information (including a 'train the trainer' session on mental health, ideas for physical activity to fit around caring responsibilities) and package of goodies to support (e.g., Bluetooth earphones as young people said listening to music helped them to relax and switch off). This will be launched in 2023.

- 4.30 Worked in partnership with Champions Board, Thriving Communities and Ayrshire College on an open day at Ayrshire College for young carers and care experienced young people. The event was well attended and there was very positive feedback from the young people and organisations who attended.
- 4.31 ADP CYPF Subgroup Chair joined Young Carers Strategy Implementation Group to improve partnership working.
- 4.32 Code for young carers available from Thriving Communities to allow booking of all chargeable activities free of charge.
- 4.33 Ativ8 card being extended to age 25 (Young Adult Carers) from 2023.
- 4.34 Activ8+ card will be made available to under 8s (plus specific over 8s). This allows same benefits as Activ8 plus an additional person can benefit from the same (sibling/parent/carer/friend).
- 4.35 Amendment to admin of Activ8 card to allow young carers to benefit who are not registered with the carers service.
- 4.36 Funding has been secured in partnership with Thriving Communities (Ayr North & Carrick) to take families to Dolphin House for respite break, mental/physical health strategies & to make connections within their community to provide support out with services where a young carer is supporting due to a language barrier. Families will be staying at Dolphin House 18th and 19th March.
- 4.37 Funding application to provide driving lessons to young carers was unsuccessful. Avenues being investigated to fund driving lessons via the carers service.
- 4.38 Working with Champions Board & My Bnk on financial literacy education for young carers/care experienced young people throughout 2023.
- 4.39 Bollard Trail project in conjunction with Champions Board planned for 2023 to reduce stigma, raise awareness and show our young people are part of the community.
- 4.40 Pilot with UWS education students providing one to one online tutoring for young carers from primary school up to Nat5. Business plan shared from Perth & Kinross who successfully ran this funded by National Lottery for 3 years and has now been permanently funded by the council due to the success. The Perth & Kinross model has been replicated, however, due to working with UWS

students, there will be zero cost. One to one tutoring has been cited as the intervention that will be most effective at raising attainment and closing the gap.

- 4.41 Working with Thriving Communities to offer Duke of Edinburgh to all young carers free of charge. Funding being applied for to provide clothing and equipment required for expeditions. Young carers' caring responsibilities can be used as volunteering activity. Support to learn skills at home (e.g. providing ingredients and recipes to follow). Support to complete physical activities (e.g. time out of class to participate in sport with Thriving Communities worker to support).
- 4.42 YCSLO working with palliative care team at NHA&A to develop clear pathway. Presented at multi-agency meeting at Crosshouse Hospital.
- 4.43 Working with Carers Trust Scotland to review Short Break Statement and ensure it is 'young person friendly'. The Young Carers Advisory Group will create an easy read version and recommend changes. This will then be used as a best practice example nationally.

I am nurtured, achieving and respected

- 4.44 Young Carers Voice Group (YCVG) had first meeting in December 2022. 28 young people aged 8 to 17 attended the team building day. Initial feedback from our young carers is being actioned.
- 4.45 6 young carers attended a residential weekend at Dolphin House in November 2022 with other youth groups from South Ayrshire as part of South Ayrshire's Youth Voice.
- 4.46 Young carer activities developed and supported by HSCP:
- Secondary video project (with Thriving Communities) (primary beginning-2023)
 - T-shirt painting (Carers Week)
 - Bounce Festival (ringfenced tickets from Thriving Communities)
 - Rowing with Scottish Rowing on River Ayr x 2 group (Ayr Academy & Kyle Academy) (with Active Schools)
 - Archery (Girvan Academy) (with Active Schools)
 - Caving at Culzean (Carrick Academy) (with Active Schools)
 - Various consultations with schools and carers service
 - Dolphin House day out for under 8s
 - Dolphin House for YCVG 2nd December
 - Ayrshire College event (with Champions Board) October 2023
 - Driving theory support sessions
 - Youth Voice residential weekend (25th to 26th November) (6 YC will attend with other youth groups)
 - Young carers visit to Scottish Parliament 24th November.
 - YCSLO working with the fire service on various opportunities – fire fighter for the day, training (fire safety, Naloxone, CPR etc.), Christmas activities.

- Tickets donated by Gaiety for Sleeping Beauty for young carers & their families.
- Ayr United facilitating a football academy day (April 2023) and tickets for young carers and their families. A young carer will be mascot for Young Carers Action Day.
- Monthly bushcraft sessions facilitated by SAC Rangers service for primary aged young carers (including under 8s).
- First aid training sessions for secondary aged young carers.

4.47 Working with Young Scot to pilot a national change to sign up for the Young Scot package after raising the challenges faced by our young carers trying to sign up. Kyle Academy is pilot school then will work with Young Scot and Youth Voice to relaunch.

I am responsible and included

4.48 Planned Carers Rights Day with Ayrshire College (pan Ayrshire partnership working)

4.49 Troon Carers Day was held in February 2023. This was a very successful event which young carers were invited to for the first time.

4.50 Payslip information printed for Carers Rights Day.

4.51 Future events Carers Active April, Young Carers Action Day – plans already underway for both.

4.52 Cllr Hunter & Cllr Ferry have both agreed to be Young Carers Champions.

4.53 Premiere event being held on 21st February for young carers film (attended by 200+ people).

4.54 Working with Youth Voice, young carers & adult carers to design and implement a method of identification for carers.

4.55 Short Life Working Group established with HIS, East/North Ayrshire colleagues to develop a clear pathway to support young carers at the point of hospital discharge.

4.56 Young Carers Statement funding now available to support young carers who highlight travel as a barrier on their Young Carers Statement.

5. STRATEGIC CONTEXT

5.1 The Young Carers Strategy aligns to the following strategic objectives:

- We focus on prevention and tackling inequality
- We nurture and are part of communities that care for each other
- We are transparent and listen to you

6. IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Financial Implications

6.1.1 There are no specific financial implications arising directly from the consideration of this report.

6.2 Human Resource Implications

6.2.1 There are no specific human resource implications arising directly from the consideration of this report.

6.3 Legal Implications

6.3.1 There are no specific legal implications arising directly from the consideration of this report.

6.4 Equalities implications

6.4.1 The There are no specific equality implications arising directly from the consideration of this report.

6.5 Sustainability implications

6.5.1 There are no sustainability implications arising directly from the consideration of this report.

6.6 Clinical/professional assessment

6.6.1 There is no requirement for a clinical/professional assessment.

7. CONSULTATION AND PARTNERSHIP WORKING

7.1 This report has been prepared in consultation with relevant officers.

8. RISK ASSESSMENT

8.1. There are no immediate risks associated with the approval of this report. Delivery of the action items set out in the Plan at Appendix 1 will minimise risks to the successful integration of health and social care services in South Ayrshire and lead to effective and collaborative working at all levels – strategic and operational – across the system.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS

[SAHSCP Young Carers Strategy 2021-2026](#)

20th February 2023