

# Children's Social Care Services

## An Overview

CYP Social Care & Services Scrutiny Panel

21<sup>st</sup> June 2022

Sue Butcher



MIDDLESBROUGH  
**CHILDREN**  
MATTER



**Our mission is to show  
Middlesbrough children  
that they matter.**

# One Children's Service



Sue Butcher  
Executive Director of  
Children's Services

Rob Brown  
Director of Education  
and Partnerships

Rachel Farnham  
Director of Children's  
Social Care

Selinda Chouhan  
Head of Strategic  
Services

# Social Care Services

Name	Service	Responsibilities
<b>Gail Earl</b>	Head of Early Help & Prevention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early Help (pre and post social work involvement).</li> </ul>
<b>Amanda Richardson-Roe</b>	Referral & Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multi-agency Safeguarding Hub (MACH)</li> <li>• Assessment Teams</li> </ul>
<b>Ben Short</b>	Safeguarding & Care Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safeguarding and Care Planning teams</li> <li>• Frontline Teams</li> </ul>
<b>Paula Jemson</b>	Head of Children Looked After & Corporate Parenting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Looked After Children Teams</li> <li>• Pathways (Care Leavers' service)</li> </ul>
<b>Paul Rudd</b>	Head of Futures for Families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Futures for Families (No Wrong Door Model)</li> <li>• Residential Children's Homes</li> <li>• Fostering Service</li> </ul>
<b>Kerrie Scraton</b>	Head of Children with Disabilities Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children with Disabilities Service</li> <li>• Oversight of Practice Leads (inc lead for the IROs)</li> </ul>
<b>Suzanne Brennan</b>	Principal Social Worker	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Centre for Practice Excellence. (Inc Audit to Excellence, Training, Social Work Academy)</li> </ul>
<b>Selinda Chouhan</b>	Head of Strategic Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oversight of Performance and Quality</li> <li>• Inspection Preparation</li> <li>• Participation</li> <li>• Safeguarding Partnership (M'bro and R&amp;C)</li> </ul>

# Strategic Priorities 2022 - 2024



**Aim:** We will show Middlesbrough's children that they matter and work to make our town safe and welcoming and to improve outcomes for all C/YP

- Expand the current model for youth provision in areas that suffer high levels of deprivation
- Evidence that Middlesbrough Council listens to children's voices
- Consolidate and build on recent Children's Services' progress to improve Ofsted rating
- Explore potential for the establishment of an Eton Sixth Form in Middlesbrough
- Deliver and extend the 50 Futures programme

# Directorate Priorities



## Strategies to be Delivered

- Participation
- Workforce
- Early Help and Prevention
- Placement Sufficiency
- Pupil Place Strategy
- The SEND Strategy
- Community Learning Strategy
- Learning and Education Strategy

## Also

- Target Young People who are NEET (Not in Education, Employment and Training)
- Deliver the Inclusion & Specialist Strategic Plan
- Work with Schools and Partners to help school improvement and support educational outcomes in Middlesbrough
- Deliver a refreshed Youth Justice Plan aligned to the YJ Board's 'Child First' principle

## All

- Embed corporate values within the directorate and make staff feel more valued
- Improve Staff communication so staff feel more engaged
- Deliver all budgeted savings initiatives and maintain spend within set limits

# Three Important National Initiatives

- Opportunity for all: strong schools with great teachers for your child. (White Paper)
- SEND review: right support, right place, right time. (Green Paper)
- Independent Review of Children's Social Care

# Main Issues and Challenges



- Improving Outcomes for vulnerable C&YP in Middlesbrough.
  - Intense scrutiny by Ofsted, DfE and internally,
  - The mechanics of improvement e.g.the Improvement Board, Ofsted Monitoring Visits, DfE reviews
- Middlesbrough's demographics and the consequential demand for Children's Services
- Workforce Stability. Recruiting and retaining experienced, permanent social workers. Can affect staff morale
- Finances, the cost of agency staff and the rising costs of external residential placements.
- Growing and developing 'Partnership Working'
- Rolling out [Middlesbrough Children Matter](#) across the town.