



**OUR CORPORATE  
PARENTING STRATEGY  
FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG  
PEOPLE  
IN MIDDLESBROUGH**

**Consultation  
Autumn 2020**



MIDDLESBROUGH  
**CHILDREN**  
MATTER

**Our massive thanks to the children and young people from Middlesbrough who have contributed to the preparation of our Corporate Parenting Strategy, supported by our partners The Care Leaders.**

**We are especially grateful to the young people who have contributed some of their experiences, views and ideas in short videos that are included in the live version of this presentation.**

**All of the young people involved have given their positive consent to their stories being shared to support this important piece of work.**



## Taking Part in Our Consultation

- It is really important that we capture your views, ideas and suggestions
- The consultation is open from 1<sup>st</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2020
- This presentation provides a **headline summary** of our strategy

You can view the full Corporate Parenting Strategy and directly contribute to our consultation by clicking on this link

# Welcome ... Some Key Messages

- Our Corporate Parenting strategy sets out our vision and action for supporting children & young people in our care
- Our strategy is one important element of our wider Improvement Plan for our whole-system of support for children and young people in Middlesbrough
- We are doing some things well, but we have a lot to do to improve our support for children and young people in our care
- The views and ideas of our staff, our partners and local people are critical to ensuring we have a strong and effective strategy in place
- Our children and young people are making a significant contribution to the development of this piece of work

# This is How Children & Young People Have a Say in Shaping Their Care in Middlesbrough

## The Voice of Children and Young People

Children in Care Council

Young Advisors

Middlesbrough Children Matter Project (in partnership with TCL)

Young Commissioners Panel

Young Recruiters Panel

SEND Young People's Forum

Thematic Surveys on Specific Topics

Confidentially through Advocacy and Independent Reviewing Officers

Individual feedback through Care Reviews, Plans for Permanency and Keyworker Contact



## Our Policy & Planning

*Helping to shape our big priorities about local services for children and young people*

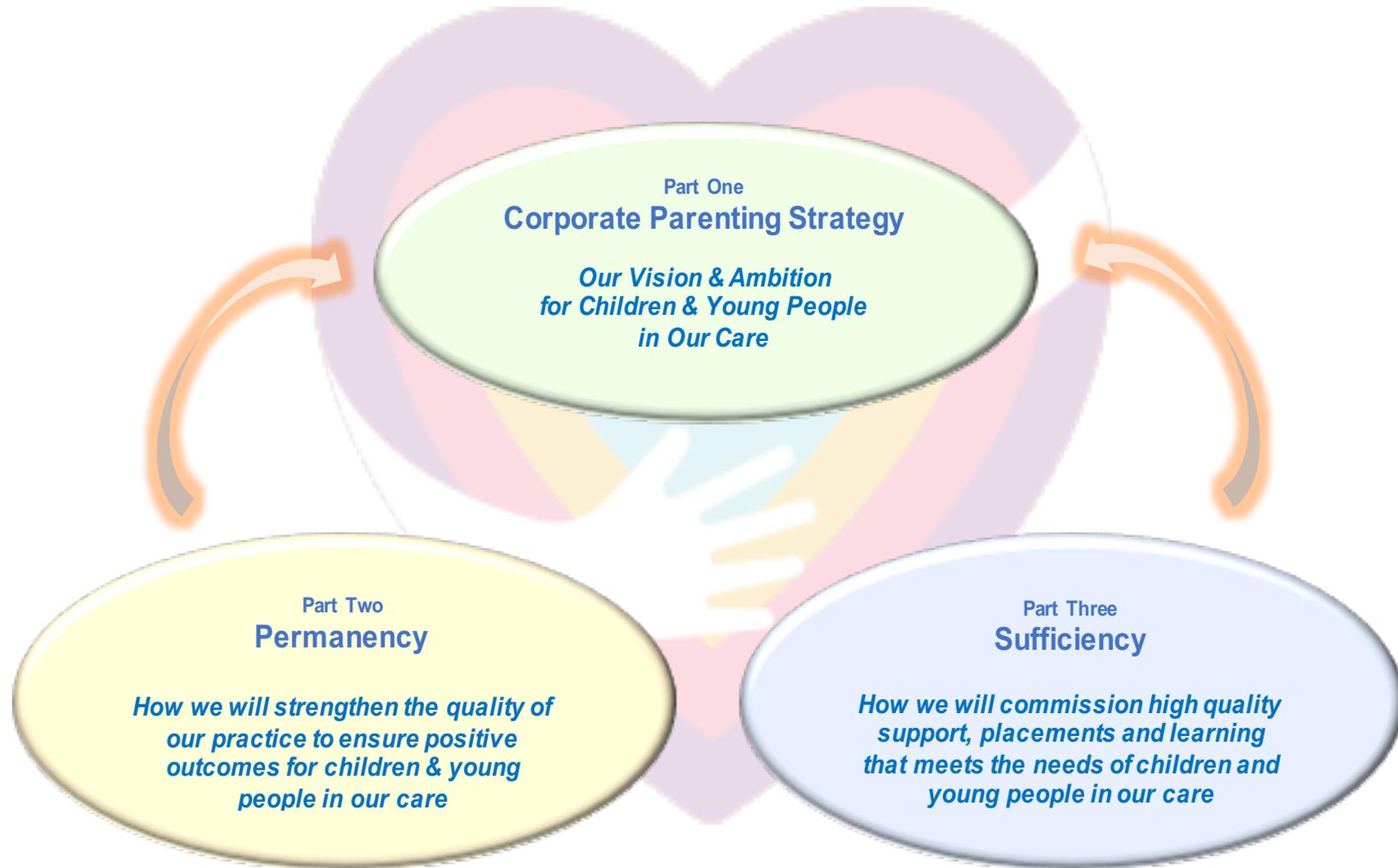
## Our Delivery

*Influencing how we directly deliver support to children and young people in Middlesbrough*

## Our Self-Evaluation

*Informing how well we are doing, and using this information to improve outcomes for children and young people*

# This is the Shape of Our Strategy



# Our Guiding Principles Developed with Children & Young People



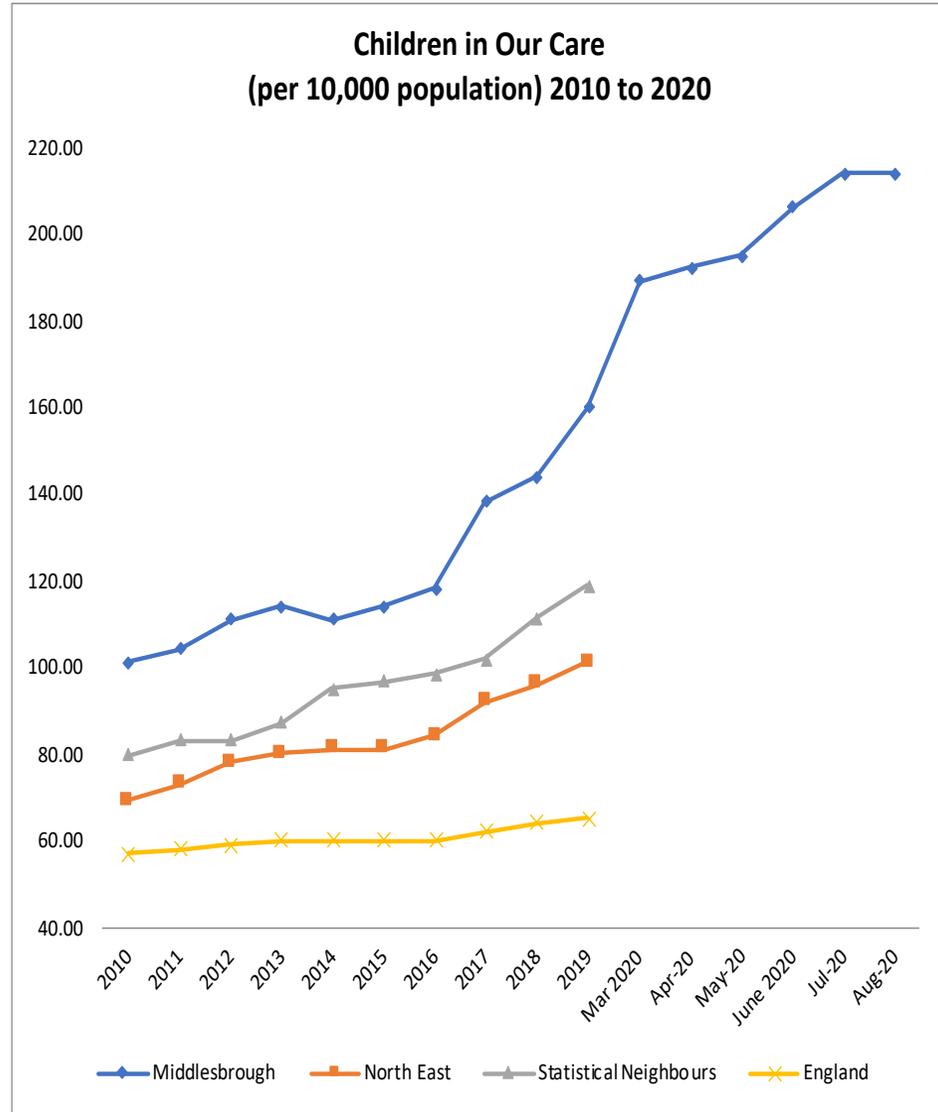
## Some Things We Do Well for Children in Our Care

- **Children have more stable placements and there is a steady reduction in the proportion of children who had three or more placement moves in our care**
- **We are reducing drift and delay for children in our care, supported by a targeted focus from our Futures for Families and Innovate projects**
- **More children are supported by us in attending school regularly, and there is a decrease in fixed term exclusions, leading to a more stable and effective learning experience for children**
- **Our visits and contacts with children in our care are increasingly within timescale, leading to an improved experience of care and support**

## Some of the Things We Need to Improve

- **Early identification of risk to support children on the edge of care**
- **Quality and timeliness of our permanence planning**
- **Availability of sufficient and suitable local homes**
- **Access to emotional and mental health support**
- **Educational attainment for children in our care, and Employment and training outcomes for Care Leavers**
- **Robust oversight from Independent Reviewing Officers**
- **Better decision-making on placements & resources**
- **Systematic dental and health checks for children in our care**

# Some Facts About Trends & Demand in Middlesbrough



- The proportion of children in our care has increased by 94% over the last 5 years
- This reflects national and regional trends - and in addition to this Middlesbrough is experiencing higher numbers overall
- Children are spending longer in our care
- The % of children coming into our care is double the rate of children leaving care
- It is a key priority for us to ensure children have the most suitable and effective permanency option
- As we improve our practice we are reinvesting resources to support children on the edge of care

# Our Corporate Parenting Priorities

**PREVENTION AND  
EDGE OF CARE**

**SUFFICIENT  
AND STABLE  
PLACEMENTS**

**VOICE,  
PARTICIPATION  
AND INFLUENCE**

**EDUCATION,  
EMPLOYMENT  
HEALTH AND  
WELLBEING**

**PERMANENCY  
PLANNING**

**MANAGING  
DEMAND  
& MAXIMISING  
RESOURCES  
FOR CHILDREN  
IN OUR CARE**

If you require special assistance with accessing or interpreting these documents or if you experience any technical problems please do not hesitate to email us directly at:

**[corporateparentconsult@middlesbrough.gov.uk](mailto:corporateparentconsult@middlesbrough.gov.uk)**



**Thank you for taking part in  
our consultation**

Our mission is to show  
Middlesbrough children  
that they matter.



**[middlesbroughchildrenmatter.co.uk](http://middlesbroughchildrenmatter.co.uk)**

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