

Children's Scrutiny Panel

24 June 2025

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Children's Care

<i>List of Service Areas within the Directorate</i>	<i>Brief description of the work of each service area</i>
Early help	Supporting children at the earliest opportunity to prevent further need/risk
MACH	Multi agency front door to identify need/risk aligned with the Tees Threshold criteria
Assessment Service	Assessments undertaken to consider what support/intervention is required
Safeguarding and Care planning	Support for children who are subject to CIN, CP and care proceedings
Children with Disabilities Service	Supporting children who have a disability
Children in our care/Pathways	Supporting children who are in our care or those who have previously been in our care
Aspire/HOTH	Working with children/young people at risk of exploitation
Residential Services	6 x Homes for children/2 x supported accommodation

Priorities

- Practice/performance improvement
- Implementation of a practice model (SOS)
- Increase of permanent workforce
- Reduction of children in external residential placements
- Early intervention with families to prevent need/Risk
- Prevention of children entering care/returning children home where safe to do so

Current Projects

- Residential
- Edge of Care
- Reunification
- Implementation of a practice model Sign's of Safety (SOS)
- SHiFT (overseen by Education & Partnerships)
- Workforce strategy

Challenges

- Consistency of practice/performance
- External residential costs
- Implementation of the reform
- Demand
- Recruitment/retention
- Numbers of children subject to child protection plans/in our care

Corporate Performance Measures (May 2025)

- Children currently in our care 482
- CLA ceasing in May 2025: 21
- Health assessments completed in timescale: 92%
- Visits in timescales: CP: 93%, CIN: 80%, CLA 86%
- Health assessments completed in timescales: 92%
- Dental checks completed in timescales: 76%

Questions?

