

Public Document Pack



MEETING:	Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Full Committee
DATE:	Tuesday 10 January 2023
TIME:	2.00 pm
VENUE:	Council Chamber, Barnsley Town Hall

AGENDA

Full Meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

All Members of the Committee Should Attend.

Administrative and Governance Issues for the Committee

1 Apologies for Absence - Parent Governor Representatives

To receive apologies for absence in accordance with Regulation 7 (6) of the Parent Governor Representatives (England) Regulations 2001.

2 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interest

To invite Members of the Committee to make any declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interest in connection with the items on this agenda.

3 Minutes of the Previous Meeting (*Pages 5 - 32*)

To approve the minutes of the following meetings:-

Full Committee – 13 September 2022

Sustainable Barnsley Workstream – 11 October 2022

Growing Barnsley Workstream – 1 November 2022

Healthy Barnsley Workstream – 29th November 2022

Overview and Scrutiny Issues for the Committee

4 Provisional Education Outcomes Across the Borough 2021-22 (*Pages 33 - 58*)

To consider a report of the Executive Director Children's Services (Item 4a) outlining Provisional Education Outcomes Across the Borough, and the Barnsley Schools' Alliance Education Improvement Strategy 2022-25 Plan on a Page (Item 4b)

5 Children's Social Care Performance Report October 2022 (Redacted) FOR INFORMATION ONLY (*Pages 59 - 64*)

To note the redacted report of the Executive Director Children's Services

6 Exclusion of the Public and Press

The public and press will be excluded from this meeting during consideration of the items so marked because of the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined by the specific paragraphs of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended, subject to the public interest test.

7 Children's Social Care Performance Report - October 2022 *(Pages 65 - 118)*

To consider a cover report relating to Children's Social Care Performance (Item 7a) in relation to the Data Report (Item 7b) and the Explanatory Document (Item 7c)

Reason restricted:

Paragraph (2) Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual.

Enquiries to Jane Murphy / Anna Marshall, Scrutiny Officers

Email scrutiny@barnsley.gov.uk

To: Chair and Members of Overview and Scrutiny Committee:-

Councillors Ennis OBE (Chair), Bellamy, Bowler, Bowser, Cain, Clarke, Denton, Eastwood, Felton, P. Fielding, W. Fielding, Green, Hand-Davis, Hayward, Lodge, Lowe-Flelo, Markham, McCarthy, Mitchell, Moyes, Newing, Osborne, Peace, Pickering, Richardson, Risebury, Shirt, Smith, Sumner, Webster, Williams, Wilson, Wraith MBE and Wray together with Statutory Co-opted Member Ms. G Carter (Parent Governor Representative)

Electronic Copies Circulated for Information

Sarah Norman, Chief Executive

Shokat Lal, Executive Director Core Services

Rob Winter, Head of Internal Audit and Risk Management

Michael Potter, Service Director, Business Improvement, HR and Communications

Sukdave Ghuman, Service Director, Law and Governance

Press

Witnesses

Item 4 (2pm approx.)

- Carly Speechley - Executive Director, Children's Services, BMBC
- Nina Sleight - Service Director Education, Early Start & Prevention, Children's Services, BMBC
- Anna Turner - Head of Service, Education & Partnerships, Children's Services, BMBC
- Neil Wilkinson - Projects and Contracts Manager, Employability & Skills, Place, BMBC
- Tom Smith - Head of Employment & Skills, Place, BMBC
- Jane Allen - Service Manager, Education Welfare and Inclusion, Children's Services, BMBC
- Helen Collins - Senior Performance and Intelligence Officer, Core Services, BMBC
- Ken Merry (Barnsley College) - Co-Chair of Barnsley Schools' Alliance
- Lee McClure (Springvale Primary) - Co-Chair of Barnsley Schools' Alliance
- Paul Crook (Penistone Grammar School) - Secondary Heads Chair, Barnsley Schools' Alliance
- Yiannis Koursis, CEO & Principal, Barnsley College
- Cllr Trevor Cave, Cabinet Spokesperson, Children's Services

Item 7 (3pm approx)

- Carly Speechley - Executive Director, Children's Services, BMBC
- Cllr Trevor Cave, Cabinet Spokesperson, Children's Services

This page is intentionally left blank

Public Document Pack



MEETING:	Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Full Committee
DATE:	Tuesday 13 September 2022
TIME:	2.00 pm
VENUE:	Council Chamber, Barnsley Town Hall

MINUTES

Present

Councillors Ennis OBE (Chair), Bellamy, Bowser, Denton, Eastwood, W. Fielding, Green, Hayward, Lodge, Lowe-Fleello, Markham, Mitchell, Moyes, Newing, Osborne, Peace, Sumner, Webster, Williams, Wilson and Wray

15 Apologies for Absence - Parent Governor Representatives

No apologies for absence were received in accordance with Regulation 7(6) of the Parent Governor Representatives (England) Regulations 2001.

16 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interest

Councillor Lodge declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute Nos. 18, 19, 20 and 22 as he is Chair of the Central Area Early Help Delivery Group, a member of the Virtual School Governance Group and an employee of an organisation which supports vulnerable adults and young people.

Councillor Webster declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute Nos. 18 and 19 as he has family members who have used adolescent mental health services.

Councillor Wilson declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minutes Nos. 19, 20 and 22 due to his membership of the Corporate Parenting Panel and the Virtual School Governance Group.

Councillor Eastwood declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute No 18 due to being the Cabinet Support Member for Place Health and Adult Social Care.

Councillor Wilson declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minutes Nos. 19, 20 and 22 due to his membership of the Corporate Parenting Panel and the Virtual School Governance Group.

Councillor Moyes declared a non-pecuniary interest in 19, 20 and 22 due to her membership of the Corporate Parenting Panel and School Panel.

Cllr Newing was present for Minute No 18 but then vacated the meeting for Minute Nos. 19, 20 and 22 due to being Cabinet Support Member for Children's Services.

17 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the following meetings were received and approved by Members as a true and accurate record:

Full Committee – 26 April 2022

Sustainable Barnsley Workstream – 31 May 2022

Growing Barnsley Workstream – 28 June 2022

Health Barnsley Workstream – 19 July 2022

18 Barnsley Safeguarding Adults Board (BSAB) Annual Report 2021-22

The following witnesses were welcomed to the meeting:

Bob Dyson, Independent Chair, BSAB

Wendy Lowder, Executive Director – Place Health & Adult Social Care, BMBC

Julie Chapman, Service Director – Adult Social Care & Health, Place Health & Adult Social Care, BMBC

Cath Erine, Barnsley Safeguarding Adults Board Manager, Place Health & Adult Social Care, BMBC

Cllr Jenny Platts, Cabinet Spokesperson, Place Health & Adult Social Care, BMBC

Superintendent Emma Wheatcroft, South Yorkshire Police (SYP)

Dawn Gibbon, Head of Safeguarding, Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (BHNFT)

Becky Hoskins, Deputy Director of Nursing & Quality, Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (BHNFT)

Angela Fawcett, Designated Nurse Safeguarding Children, South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board

Andrew Osborn, Interim Service Director Commissioning & Integration, Place Health & Adult Social Care, BMBC

Emma Cox, Associate Director of Nursing, Quality & Professions, South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (SWYPFT), was also in attendance virtually to answer Members detailed questions.

Members were invited to consider a report of the Executive Director Core Services (Item 4a) and the Barnsley Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2021 – 2022 (Item 4b).

Councillor Platts and B Dyson introduced the report, which outlined the achievements of the Board in 2021-22 and the ambitions of the Board for the following year. Achievements included the multi-agency training offer, work around self-neglect and hoarding, Safeguarding Awareness Week which was led by Barnsley across the county and a peer review which found various strengths and areas of development that the Board were already aware of.

In the ensuing discussion, and in response to detailed questioning and challenge the following matters were highlighted:

Barneslai Homes were not represented at the meeting, but Members were assured that Barneslai Homes had good policies in place in regards to concerns about

vulnerable adults and children. Berneslai Homes had their own safeguarding team so they might not need to refer every case to the front door of Adult Social Care. In addition, Berneslai Homes provide the Board with quarterly data evidencing the prevention work undertaken to keep tenants safe. It was highlighted that staff working on new 'Front Door' for Adult Social Care now acknowledge if service users are Berneslai Homes tenants, and the ambition moving forward is to have Berneslai Homes as a partner in the 'Front Door' to strengthen links with officers.

It is a priority for the Board that people who need safeguarding are involved and in control of the process. The Board had focused on making safeguarding personal and use advocacy to embed positive outcomes. It was noted that there are some individuals who are hard to engage with and some who lacked capacity, therefore it was difficult to ascertain what their experience of accessing support had been. The Board had looked at introducing family conferences to support all adults to design solutions centred around the individuals along with their families and friends. Training and supervision for staff also focused on working with those individuals who are more difficult to engage with.

The board had worked closely with the Local Safeguarding Children's Partnership to improve transitions into Adulthood, as this had been a concern historically. It was highlighted that a task and finish group was implemented to drive this work forward. A multi-agency Directions Panel was used to provide early intervention for young people. Working together with Children's Services more closely would save intervention down the line with Adult Social Care or Mental Health Services. CAMHS were currently negating with children and young people to map out the services up to the age of 25 and a permanent offer will be available from April 2023. There is partnership working with INSPYRE to provide support to all waiting in CAMHS and to support a seamless transition to Adult Services for young people.

The recent peer review found two areas of improvement which focus on the tightening of agenda planning and working with other Boards to ascertain where agenda items would be best placed. As a result of the peer review the Board would look at data collection, such as reviewing the quarterly dashboard and the end of year data set so that data could be studied not just on a macro level but on an area-by-area basis or by group of individuals etc. Peer Reviews had been less frequent due to the pandemic, but this is now recommencing across the regions and the Board would be sharing their peer review with colleagues across ADASS. Engagement with other Authorities is important, and the Board regularly shared best practice via regional and national forums such as ADASS (Association of Directors of Adult Social Services), County and National Safeguarding Forums.

Members were informed that the Board had an underspend, and this would be invested into a safeguarding post that sits outside the Council. This new post would focus on reaching out the public and customer groups around safeguarding, and the hope is that this would increase the number of public referrals.

The increase in referrals is seen as a positive impact of the Board's communication and training plan. Partners from the Hospital and the Police agreed that the increase in referrals showed that front line staff are more effective at detecting safeguarding concerns which is testament to the training offer of the Board. The Police now have a member of staff in 'Front Door' leading to a reduction in the number of concerns that

would not progress beyond the Police. The Board would like to work more closely with the Borough's care homes as a significant proportion of referrals are made via care home staff. Care Homes provide their own safeguarding training, and the board is working with commissioners to determine the quality of this training.

Members have an important role to play in the safeguarding of Barnsley residents, and Members had been invited to complete safeguarding training in person or virtually. Members could undertake training ranging from beginner to advanced and could also do joint training focusing on both Children's and Adult's Safeguarding. It was noted that the email inviting Members to undertake this training should be sent again.

There are staff working with private sector housing colleagues. The Board had increased links with both the Safer Neighbourhoods team and private tenancy team, with a strong focus on identifying self-neglect and hoarding and recognising those who would benefit from early intervention. Joint working had actively been engaged in, such as the self-neglect and hoarding webpage and the D'Clutter club.

The Board had anticipated an increase of safeguarding concerns due to the Cost-of-Living Crisis. A regional approach had been underway, with a Yorkshire & Humber group working on actions that could be taken. The Board had undertaken work to understand the fabric of the local community and who is at risk. Campaigns such as More Money in Your Pocket had been implemented and further communication plans had been discussed to inform local residents of support available.

RESOLVED that

- (i) Witnesses be thanked for their attendance and contribution and for the excellent work of the BSAB, and;
- (ii) Members be provided with Safeguarding training information to increase uptake.

19 Barnsley Local Safeguarding Children's Partnership Annual Report 2021-22

The following witnesses were welcomed to the meeting:

Carly Speechley, Executive Director, Children's Services, BMBC
Keeley Boud, Head of Safeguarding & Quality Assurance, Children's Services, BMBC
Annette Carey, Strategic Safeguarding Partnership Manager, Children's Services, BMBC
Cllr Trevor Cave, Cabinet Spokesperson – Children's Services
Superintendent Emma Wheatcroft, South Yorkshire Police (SYP)
Dawn Gibbon, Head of Safeguarding, Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (BHNFT)
Angela Fawcett, Designated Nurse Safeguarding Children and Looked After Children, South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
Becky Hoskins, Deputy Director of Nursing & Quality, Barnsley Hospital NHS

Foundation Trust (BHNFT)

Emma Cox, Associate Director of Nursing, Quality & Professions, South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (SWYPFT) and Jean Imray, Independent Scrutineer, BMBC were also in attendance virtually to answer Members detailed questions.

Members were invited to consider a report of the Executive Director Core Services (Item 5a) and the Barnsley Local Safeguarding Children's Partnership Annual Report 2021-22 (Item 5b).

C Speechley introduced the report, in which it was highlighted that 2021- 22 was a period of challenging circumstances for both families and the workforce. The report summarised the key achievements of the Board, and also set out the priorities for the following year.

In the ensuing discussion, and in response to detailed questioning and challenge the following matters were highlighted:

Members discussed concerns surrounding digital exclusion that the borough's young people faced, such as lack of access to Wi-Fi and mobile devices. The service undertook a piece of work during the pandemic to provide equipment to vulnerable young people and informed families that they could use Family Hubs to access free Wi-Fi. It was noted that this was an area of work that could be explored in more depth.

Online harms and bullying are a key concern for the Board. One of the most significant areas of contextual safeguarding is online harms, and this was contextualised in the Section 175 Audits. The service had implemented a range of training for both young people and parents which surrounded this. In Safeguarding Awareness Week, workshops with parents which focused on online harm and bullying took place. Students are not allowed to use mobile phones in lesson time at school, but concerns were raised about students accessing mobile phones in downtime, and also smartwatches in lessons, which meant they could experience online harms and bullying whilst in school. Members were assured that work would be undertaken with schools to ascertain policies around mobile phone and smartwatch use. Young people in the Borough had a keen interest in tackling online harms and bullying. The Tackling Bullying Commitment had been implemented by schools with check and challenge provided by young people acting as peer inspectors. These check and challenge inspections by young people would help inform the Board on how well the bullying commitment was being implemented.

Members suggested that the Partnership would benefit from engaging with the Area Councils. Area Councils had specific funds that the Partnership could utilise in specific localities. This would be picked up, with the suggestion that the Executive Director should attend the Area Council Chairs Forum.

The Cost-Of-Living crisis would be a key issue for the Partnership over the coming months. The Partnership provided support for families, such as Family Centres in every locality, and should receive £3 Million of additional Family Hub funding for their early help offer . More parents and carers parenting in adverse circumstances could

mean there is a potential saturation point where demand outstrips level of services. The service would be looking at alternative funding solutions and efficiency and integration to combat this.

Access to schools was more difficult than it had been historically. The Service hold regular meetings with designated safeguarding leads in schools to share information and identify training needs. It was noted that children who had access to family support workers had regular direct contact with practitioners who would speak to them alone and share feedback. It was hoped Front Door services would work towards better connections with schools and a pilot has been undertaken with social workers linked in with schools to improve communication. Health colleagues noted that pre-Covid Partnership meetings took place in schools on occasion, and met with young people after, which provided invaluable insight to the Partnership. Training in schools was provided on issues such as self-harm and bullying, supported by Compass.

Availability of CAMHS services for young people is a national problem, with an increase in the volume and complexity of referrals. To reduce waiting times further, CAMHS had engaged in partnership working with organisations such as Compass who provided support in schools. There had been an increase in EHCPs surrounding children who were unable to go to school or had a fear of school. The service had been working closely with both CAMHS and Compass to bridge the gap in service in this area. This had led to an increase in Elective Home Education across the borough, which was regularly audited by the Partnership.

The Partnership had engaged in a vast amount of work in relation to safe sleeping arrangements. The Partnership reported no deaths since last year's update. The Partnership had undertaken significant work to reduce deaths related to unsafe sleeping and abusive head trauma via the roll out of the ICON programme. Both of these had been significant pieces of multi-agency work, with staff being trained to provide brief interventions and champions appointed to keep the good work of the programme going. The Partnership produced a radio campaign which had been replicated across the country and developed risk assessment tools so practitioners feel confident in having conversations with parents and carers around this risk.

The Partnership collated feedback through various mechanisms. The Council operates various forums such as the Youth Council and SEND Youth Group, which are established groups of young people who regularly feedback into services. Audits, observations of practice, and walk the floor exercises with the Cabinet support Member for Children's Services provided quality assurance for the service. The Council also has a feedback and improvement service in which families could submit feedback and complaints.

Staffing in Children's Social Care services is a national issue. The Council had vacancies in Front Door services, which could lead to sickness and absence due to additional capacity pressures on staff. The service had developed a recruitment and retention strategy, with various communications such as a micro site developed jointly with the Communications and HR teams.

RESOLVED that

- (i) Witnesses be thanked for their attendance and contribution and the report be noted
- (ii) Members to be provided with information on mobile device usage policies in schools
- (iii) Witnesses, including SYP, investigate the possibility of working with Area Councils
- (iv) Members to be provided with information on self-harm training and education in schools
- (v) Witnesses to further investigate the impact of digital exclusion; including progress against the South Yorkshire Broadband project
- (vi) Witnesses to increase the promotion of good partnership working in annual reports, e.g., the safe sleep project
- (vii) Members to promote the Children's Services recruitment offer
- (viii) Members to consider the added value of the partnership as a whole at future scrutiny sessions, not just focusing on the performance of individual services
- (ix) Witnesses should be cognisant of those living in private rented accommodation and whether they are disproportionately affected by the cost of living crisis; and
- (x) Executive Director to inform the Chair of the Committee of the outcome of the bid to provide support through Family Centres.

20 REDACTED Children's Social Care Performance Report (For Information Only)

Members were invited to consider a cover report relating to Children's Social Care Performance. The redacted report was provided for information only.

RESOLVED that the report be noted

21 Exclusion of the Public and Press

RESOLVED that the public and press be excluded from this meeting during consideration of the items so marked because of the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined by the specific paragraphs of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended, subject to the public interest test.

22 Children's Social Care Performance Report Private Member Briefing

The following witnesses were welcomed to the meeting:

Carly Speechley, Executive Director-Children's Services, BMBC

Keeley Boud, Head of Safeguarding & Quality Assurance, Children's Services,
BMBC
Cllr Trevor Cave, Cabinet Spokesperson Children's Services, BMBC

Members were invited to consider a cover report relating to Children's Social Care Performance (Item 8a) in relation to the Data Report (Item 8b) and the Explanatory Document (Item 8c).

A strong performance was noted overall despite challenges with staffing. It is anticipated that the Cost-of-Living crisis could create further significant pressures for the service.

The needs of care leavers are under constant review via the Sufficiency Strategy, and areas such as the number of care leavers in suitable accommodation are a key focus for the service.

Challenges in recruiting and retaining staff remain a national issue for the profession. There have been issues with recruiting both permanent and agency staff, particularly experienced social workers. Additional benefits are advertised within the job description, such as the welcome bonus and Local Government Pension benefits. The service had explored adding additional admin capacity to remove pressure from front line staff, however there were also issues in recruiting admin staff. Various options to combat recruitment issues would be explored, such as visibility at local universities and the relaunch of the microsite.

RESOLVED that

- (i) Members note the report; and
- (ii) Witnesses explore working with Job Centres to recruit admin staff

Chair

MEETING:	Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Full Committee
DATE:	Tuesday 13 September 2022
TIME:	2.00 pm
VENUE:	Council Chamber, Barnsley Town Hall

MINUTES

Present

Councillors Ennis OBE (Chair), Bellamy, Bowser, Denton, Eastwood, W. Fielding, Green, Hayward, Lodge, Lowe-Fleello, Markham, Mitchell, Moyes, Newing, Osborne, Peace, Sumner, Webster, Williams, Wilson and Wray

15 Apologies for Absence - Parent Governor Representatives

No apologies for absence were received in accordance with Regulation 7(6) of the Parent Governor Representatives (England) Regulations 2001.

16 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interest

Councillor Lodge declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute Nos. 18, 19, 20 and 22 as he is Chair of the Central Area Early Help Delivery Group, a member of the Virtual School Governance Group and an employee of an organisation which supports vulnerable adults and young people.

Councillor Webster declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute Nos. 18 and 19 as he has family members who have used adolescent mental health services.

Councillor Wilson declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minutes Nos. 19, 20 and 22 due to his membership of the Corporate Parenting Panel and the Virtual School Governance Group.

Councillor Eastwood declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute No 18 due to being the Cabinet Support Member for Place Health and Adult Social Care.

Councillor Wilson declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minutes Nos. 19, 20 and 22 due to his membership of the Corporate Parenting Panel and the Virtual School Governance Group.

Councillor Moyes declared a non-pecuniary interest in 19, 20 and 22 due to her membership of the Corporate Parenting Panel and School Panel.

Cllr Newing was present for Minute No 18 but then vacated the meeting for Minute Nos. 19, 20 and 22 due to being Cabinet Support Member for Children's Services.

17 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the following meetings were received and approved by Members as a true and accurate record:

Full Committee – 26 April 2022

Sustainable Barnsley Workstream – 31 May 2022

Growing Barnsley Workstream – 28 June 2022

Health Barnsley Workstream – 19 July 2022

18 Barnsley Safeguarding Adults Board (BSAB) Annual Report 2021-22

The following witnesses were welcomed to the meeting:

Bob Dyson, Independent Chair, BSAB

Wendy Lowder, Executive Director – Place Health & Adult Social Care, BMBC

Julie Chapman, Service Director – Adult Social Care & Health, Place Health & Adult Social Care, BMBC

Cath Erine, Barnsley Safeguarding Adults Board Manager, Place Health & Adult Social Care, BMBC

Cllr Jenny Platts, Cabinet Spokesperson, Place Health & Adult Social Care, BMBC

Superintendent Emma Wheatcroft, South Yorkshire Police (SYP)

Dawn Gibbon, Head of Safeguarding, Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (BHNFT)

Becky Hoskins, Deputy Director of Nursing & Quality, Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (BHNFT)

Angela Fawcett, Designated Nurse Safeguarding Children, South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board

Andrew Osborn, Interim Service Director Commissioning & Integration, Place Health & Adult Social Care, BMBC

Emma Cox, Associate Director of Nursing, Quality & Professions, South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (SWYPFT), was also in attendance virtually to answer Members detailed questions.

Members were invited to consider a report of the Executive Director Core Services (Item 4a) and the Barnsley Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2021 – 2022 (Item 4b).

Councillor Platts and B Dyson introduced the report, which outlined the achievements of the Board in 2021-22 and the ambitions of the Board for the following year. Achievements included the multi-agency training offer, work around self-neglect and hoarding, Safeguarding Awareness Week which was led by Barnsley across the county and a peer review which found various strengths and areas of development that the Board were already aware of.

In the ensuing discussion, and in response to detailed questioning and challenge the following matters were highlighted:

Berneslai Homes were not represented at the meeting, but Members were assured that Berneslai Homes had good policies in place in regards to concerns about

vulnerable adults and children. Berneslai Homes had their own safeguarding team so they might not need to refer every case to the front door of Adult Social Care. In addition, Berneslai Homes provide the Board with quarterly data evidencing the prevention work undertaken to keep tenants safe. It was highlighted that staff working on new 'Front Door' for Adult Social Care now acknowledge if service users are Berneslai Homes tenants, and the ambition moving forward is to have Berneslai Homes as a partner in the 'Front Door' to strengthen links with officers.

It is a priority for the Board that people who need safeguarding are involved and in control of the process. The Board had focused on making safeguarding personal and use advocacy to embed positive outcomes. It was noted that there are some individuals who are hard to engage with and some who lacked capacity, therefore it was difficult to ascertain what their experience of accessing support had been. The Board had looked at introducing family conferences to support all adults to design solutions centred around the individuals along with their families and friends. Training and supervision for staff also focused on working with those individuals who are more difficult to engage with.

The board had worked closely with the Local Safeguarding Children's Partnership to improve transitions into Adulthood, as this had been a concern historically. It was highlighted that a task and finish group was implemented to drive this work forward. A multi-agency Directions Panel was used to provide early intervention for young people. Working together with Children's Services more closely would save intervention down the line with Adult Social Care or Mental Health Services. CAMHS were currently negating with children and young people to map out the services up to the age of 25 and a permanent offer will be available from April 2023. There is partnership working with INSPYRE to provide support to all waiting in CAMHS and to support a seamless transition to Adult Services for young people.

The recent peer review found two areas of improvement which focus on the tightening of agenda planning and working with other Boards to ascertain where agenda items would be best placed. As a result of the peer review the Board would look at data collection, such as reviewing the quarterly dashboard and the end of year data set so that data could be studied not just on a macro level but on an area-by-area basis or by group of individuals etc. Peer Reviews had been less frequent due to the pandemic, but this is now recommencing across the regions and the Board would be sharing their peer review with colleagues across ADASS. Engagement with other Authorities is important, and the Board regularly shared best practice via regional and national forums such as ADASS (Association of Directors of Adult Social Services), County and National Safeguarding Forums.

Members were informed that the Board had an underspend, and this would be invested into a safeguarding post that sits outside the Council. This new post would focus on reaching out the public and customer groups around safeguarding, and the hope is that this would increase the number of public referrals.

The increase in referrals is seen as a positive impact of the Board's communication and training plan. Partners from the Hospital and the Police agreed that the increase in referrals showed that front line staff are more effective at detecting safeguarding concerns which is testament to the training offer of the Board. The Police now have a member of staff in 'Front Door' leading to a reduction in the number of concerns that

would not progress beyond the Police. The Board would like to work more closely with the Borough's care homes as a significant proportion of referrals are made via care home staff. Care Homes provide their own safeguarding training, and the board is working with commissioners to determine the quality of this training.

Members have an important role to play in the safeguarding of Barnsley residents, and Members had been invited to complete safeguarding training in person or virtually. Members could undertake training ranging from beginner to advanced and could also do joint training focusing on both Children's and Adult's Safeguarding. It was noted that the email inviting Members to undertake this training should be sent again.

There are staff working with private sector housing colleagues. The Board had increased links with both the Safer Neighbourhoods team and private tenancy team, with a strong focus on identifying self-neglect and hoarding and recognising those who would benefit from early intervention. Joint working had actively been engaged in, such as the self-neglect and hoarding webpage and the D'Clutter club.

The Board had anticipated an increase of safeguarding concerns due to the Cost-of-Living Crisis. A regional approach had been underway, with a Yorkshire & Humber group working on actions that could be taken. The Board had undertaken work to understand the fabric of the local community and who is at risk. Campaigns such as More Money in Your Pocket had been implemented and further communication plans had been discussed to inform local residents of support available.

RESOLVED that

- (i) Witnesses be thanked for their attendance and contribution and for the excellent work of the BSAB, and;
- (ii) Members be provided with Safeguarding training information to increase uptake.

19 Barnsley Local Safeguarding Children's Partnership Annual Report 2021-22

The following witnesses were welcomed to the meeting:

Carly Speechley, Executive Director, Children's Services, BMBC
Keeley Boud, Head of Safeguarding & Quality Assurance, Children's Services, BMBC
Annette Carey, Strategic Safeguarding Partnership Manager, Children's Services, BMBC
Cllr Trevor Cave, Cabinet Spokesperson – Children's Services
Superintendent Emma Wheatcroft, South Yorkshire Police (SYP)
Dawn Gibbon, Head of Safeguarding, Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (BHNFT)
Angela Fawcett, Designated Nurse Safeguarding Children and Looked After Children, South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
Becky Hoskins, Deputy Director of Nursing & Quality, Barnsley Hospital NHS

Foundation Trust (BHNFT)

Emma Cox, Associate Director of Nursing, Quality & Professions, South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (SWYPFT) and Jean Imray, Independent Scrutineer, BMBC were also in attendance virtually to answer Members detailed questions.

Members were invited to consider a report of the Executive Director Core Services (Item 5a) and the Barnsley Local Safeguarding Children's Partnership Annual Report 2021-22 (Item 5b).

C Speechley introduced the report, in which it was highlighted that 2021- 22 was a period of challenging circumstances for both families and the workforce. The report summarised the key achievements of the Board, and also set out the priorities for the following year.

In the ensuing discussion, and in response to detailed questioning and challenge the following matters were highlighted:

Members discussed concerns surrounding digital exclusion that the borough's young people faced, such as lack of access to Wi-Fi and mobile devices. The service undertook a piece of work during the pandemic to provide equipment to vulnerable young people and informed families that they could use Family Hubs to access free Wi-Fi. It was noted that this was an area of work that could be explored in more depth.

Online harms and bullying are a key concern for the Board. One of the most significant areas of contextual safeguarding is online harms, and this was contextualised in the Section 175 Audits. The service had implemented a range of training for both young people and parents which surrounded this. In Safeguarding Awareness Week, workshops with parents which focused on online harm and bullying took place. Students are not allowed to use mobile phones in lesson time at school, but concerns were raised about students accessing mobile phones in downtime, and also smartwatches in lessons, which meant they could experience online harms and bullying whilst in school. Members were assured that work would be undertaken with schools to ascertain policies around mobile phone and smartwatch use. Young people in the Borough had a keen interest in tackling online harms and bullying. The Tackling Bullying Commitment had been implemented by schools with check and challenge provided by young people acting as peer inspectors. These check and challenge inspections by young people would help inform the Board on how well the bullying commitment was being implemented.

Members suggested that the Partnership would benefit from engaging with the Area Councils. Area Councils had specific funds that the Partnership could utilise in specific localities. This would be picked up, with the suggestion that the Executive Director should attend the Area Council Chairs Forum.

The Cost-Of-Living crisis would be a key issue for the Partnership over the coming months. The Partnership provided support for families, such as Family Centres in every locality, and should receive £3 Million of additional Family Hub funding for their early help offer . More parents and carers parenting in adverse circumstances could

mean there is a potential saturation point where demand outstrips level of services. The service would be looking at alternative funding solutions and efficiency and integration to combat this.

Access to schools was more difficult than it had been historically. The Service hold regular meetings with designated safeguarding leads in schools to share information and identify training needs. It was noted that children who had access to family support workers had regular direct contact with practitioners who would speak to them alone and share feedback. It was hoped Front Door services would work towards better connections with schools and a pilot has been undertaken with social workers linked in with schools to improve communication. Health colleagues noted that pre-Covid Partnership meetings took place in schools on occasion, and met with young people after, which provided invaluable insight to the Partnership. Training in schools was provided on issues such as self-harm and bullying, supported by Compass.

Availability of CAMHS services for young people is a national problem, with an increase in the volume and complexity of referrals. To reduce waiting times further, CAMHS had engaged in partnership working with organisations such as Compass who provided support in schools. There had been an increase in EHCPs surrounding children who were unable to go to school or had a fear of school. The service had been working closely with both CAMHS and Compass to bridge the gap in service in this area. This had led to an increase in Elective Home Education across the borough, which was regularly audited by the Partnership.

The Partnership had engaged in a vast amount of work in relation to safe sleeping arrangements. The Partnership reported no deaths since last year's update. The Partnership had undertaken significant work to reduce deaths related to unsafe sleeping and abusive head trauma via the roll out of the ICON programme. Both of these had been significant pieces of multi-agency work, with staff being trained to provide brief interventions and champions appointed to keep the good work of the programme going. The Partnership produced a radio campaign which had been replicated across the country and developed risk assessment tools so practitioners feel confident in having conversations with parents and carers around this risk.

The Partnership collated feedback through various mechanisms. The Council operates various forums such as the Youth Council and SEND Youth Group, which are established groups of young people who regularly feedback into services. Audits, observations of practice, and walk the floor exercises with the Cabinet support Member for Children's Services provided quality assurance for the service. The Council also has a feedback and improvement service in which families could submit feedback and complaints.

Staffing in Children's Social Care services is a national issue. The Council had vacancies in Front Door services, which could lead to sickness and absence due to additional capacity pressures on staff. The service had developed a recruitment and retention strategy, with various communications such as a micro site developed jointly with the Communications and HR teams.

RESOLVED that

- (i) Witnesses be thanked for their attendance and contribution and the report be noted
- (ii) Members to be provided with information on mobile device usage policies in schools
- (iii) Witnesses, including SYP, investigate the possibility of working with Area Councils
- (iv) Members to be provided with information on self-harm training and education in schools
- (v) Witnesses to further investigate the impact of digital exclusion; including progress against the South Yorkshire Broadband project
- (vi) Witnesses to increase the promotion of good partnership working in annual reports, e.g., the safe sleep project
- (vii) Members to promote the Children's Services recruitment offer
- (viii) Members to consider the added value of the partnership as a whole at future scrutiny sessions, not just focusing on the performance of individual services
- (ix) Witnesses should be cognisant of those living in private rented accommodation and whether they are disproportionately affected by the cost of living crisis; and
- (x) Executive Director to inform the Chair of the Committee of the outcome of the bid to provide support through Family Centres.

20 REDACTED Children's Social Care Performance Report (For Information Only)

Members were invited to consider a cover report relating to Children's Social Care Performance. The redacted report was provided for information only.

RESOLVED that the report be noted

21 Exclusion of the Public and Press

RESOLVED that the public and press be excluded from this meeting during consideration of the items so marked because of the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined by the specific paragraphs of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended, subject to the public interest test.

22 Children's Social Care Performance Report Private Member Briefing

The following witnesses were welcomed to the meeting:

Carly Speechley, Executive Director-Children's Services, BMBC

Keeley Boud, Head of Safeguarding & Quality Assurance, Children's Services,
BMBC
Cllr Trevor Cave, Cabinet Spokesperson Children's Services, BMBC

Members were invited to consider a cover report relating to Children's Social Care Performance (Item 8a) in relation to the Data Report (Item 8b) and the Explanatory Document (Item 8c).

A strong performance was noted overall despite challenges with staffing. It is anticipated that the Cost-of-Living crisis could create further significant pressures for the service.

The needs of care leavers are under constant review via the Sufficiency Strategy, and areas such as the number of care leavers in suitable accommodation are a key focus for the service.

Challenges in recruiting and retaining staff remain a national issue for the profession. There have been issues with recruiting both permanent and agency staff, particularly experienced social workers. Additional benefits are advertised within the job description, such as the welcome bonus and Local Government Pension benefits. The service had explored adding additional admin capacity to remove pressure from front line staff, however there were also issues in recruiting admin staff. Various options to combat recruitment issues would be explored, such as visibility at local universities and the relaunch of the microsite.

RESOLVED that

- (i) Members note the report; and
- (ii) Witnesses explore working with Job Centres to recruit admin staff

Chair

MEETING:	Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Sustainable Barnsley Workstream
DATE:	Tuesday 11 October 2022
TIME:	2.00 pm
VENUE:	Council Chamber, Barnsley Town Hall

MINUTES

Present

Councillors Ennis OBE (Chair), Bellamy, Bowler, Bowser, Eastwood, P. Fielding, W. Fielding, Hayward, Lodge, Markham, Moyes, Osborne, Peace, Richardson, Smith, Webster and Wray.

23 Apologies for Absence - Parent Governor Representatives

No apologies for absence were received in accordance with Regulation 7(6) of the Parent Governor Representative (England) Regulations 2001.

24 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interest

Councillor Osborne declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute No. 26 as he is the Cabinet Support Member for Regeneration and Culture, he works for Reed in Partnership as a Partnership Manager and is a member of the Berneslai Homes Board. His wife is employed as Higher Executive Officer for the DWP.

Councillor Peace declared a non-pecuniary in Minute No.26 as he works for the Department for Work and Pensions.

Councillor Lodge declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute No. 26 as he is a Berneslai Homes Tenant.

25 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 13th September, 2022 were received.

26 Cost of Living Crisis Report

The following witnesses were welcome to the meeting:

Matt O'Neill, Executive Director Growth & Sustainability, BMBC
 Kathy McArdle, Service Director Regeneration & Culture, BMBC
 Sarah Cartwright, Head of Strategic Housing, Sustainability & Climate Change, BMBC
 Julia Burrows, Executive Director Public Health & Communities, BMBC
 Phil Hollingsworth, Service Director Stronger, Safer, Healthier Communities, BMBC
 Jayne Hellowell, Head of Commissioning, Healthier Communities, BMBC
 Councillor Robert Frost, Cabinet Spokesperson Growth & Sustainability, BMBC
 Councillor Caroline Makinson, Cabinet Spokesperson Public Health & Communities

Councillor Frost gave members of the committee a brief summary of the various grants and schemes that had been introduced in the fight against the cost of living crisis. Members were also informed of the Adult skills and community learning courses available for aiding people back into learning in order to gain qualifications to get back into work. All of the information detailed would be available on the More Money in Your Pocket website.

Julia Burrows spoke of how important it was to recognise that the council could not solve the cost of living crisis but could work together with partners to try and mitigate the impact with the resources available. It was acknowledged that Barnsley already had significant poverty in the Borough and that the cost of living crisis would exacerbate the problem making some residents more vulnerable than before. The short term response would be how to help over winter going into the long term impact

Phil Hollingsworth introduced the report, with an update to the work being undertaken in the response to the cost of living crisis including the launch of the More Money in Your Pocket website which is a one stop shop for support and guidance to residents. Members were provided with details of the government grants already received and what they were being utilised for, the work being carried out in the community and the Affordable Warmth Charter due to be launched in the Autumn.

Members heard how the forward plan strategy had been introduced with the message around the resources, grants and funding available to residents being relayed to the community through a number of avenues including frontline workers, health partners, police, community and voluntary sectors, leaflets, bookmarks in libraries and adverts in the Barnsley Chronicle.

Sarah Cartwright informed members of the resources available to all home owners and tenants including private rented and Berneslai Homes to make their homes more energy efficient.

In the ensuing discussion and in response to detailed questioning and challenge the following matters were highlighted:

The long term plans to support residents out of poverty and to reduce the number of people affected in the future included a strategic approach to help the economically inactive people gain employment by enhancing their skills. A big piece of work was being undertaken independently to look into pathways across the country and internationally in order to gain an action plan to get people back into work.

The issue around redistributing food past the 'best before' date was being addressed so as to reduce the amount of good food that goes into landfill and to instead get it to people who need it at cost. Recipes to support cooking on a low budget are available on the website.

Storehouse and Field's is a community led food pantry that offers access to good quality and affordable food each week. The aim is to develop more of these through a franchise with local community groups and to set up as many as possible to help the local communities. However, the aim was not to monopolise the market with only

Storehouse and Field franchises but there would also be support for independent schemes, of which some had already received funding and been established.

Alongside the energy crisis, there was also an expectation to see a housing crisis due to mortgage rates increasing. This would be monitored over the winter months and members were asked to help reiterate the message for anyone struggling to pay their mortgage or rent to get in touch and engage early in order to prevent homelessness.

A grant from the South Yorkshire Mayor's Office of £15,000 had been realigned in order to help the armed forces community. The More Money in Your Military Pocket campaign would be promoted with the help of Councillors and local armed forces organisations such as - Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association (SSAFA) and the British Legion.

The National Grid and OFGEM had hinted at an energy shortage during winter raising fears around blackouts. Mitigations were in place for a crisis response, but expectations would be for a joint council and whole community approach. It was hoped that if anything so drastic were to happen, then a national alert would be given in order to plan a response.

Whilst there was no additional grant support for council and Berneslai Homes employees affected by the cost of living crisis, there was support through the More Money in Your Pocket website, information sessions for staff members, support for mental health and wellbeing and debt management. Employees were not restricted to the 3 days a week in the office, they could opt to spend 5 working days in an office or council building in order to save on energy bills at home.

The approach taken to deciding and managing which buildings would be open and operational for offering a warm place provision was being undertaken without a clear understanding of what the demand will be. Currently, existing buildings and opening hours would be utilised, with a view to flexing this offer if demand required it, and any independent community halls or venues that wished to create a provision would be welcomed in addition to the venues that the Council and Berneslai Homes' had offered.

Local elected members were in a good position to identify those residents in most need and at significant risk of being adversely affected by the crisis. Ward Alliances and Area Council's were also in a good position to identify additional residents through their Age UK, DIAL and CAB contracts. Age UK had funded some slow cookers with recipes and food packages to be handed out in addition to winter warmth packs. Some smaller independent groups had received funding to provide a hot meal once a week and cups of tea and in total had reached out to around 3,000 pensioners which was a condition of the grant.

It was identified that there were many elderly residents who would be eligible to claim pension credits who were either too proud or were not aware they could claim. In turn this could then open up avenues to other benefits.

Whilst it was positive communicating to the wider public on social media and websites, it was acknowledged that those who would be most vulnerable would

probably not have access to those platforms. Visits to large employers such as GXO had taken place and were planned, and also potentially visits to Barnsley Football Club on match days, as well as spreading the word through community groups.

It was felt that some people would be overlooked as they did not qualify for a lot of help and benefits due to owning their own homes but yet only receiving a state pension. There were warm homes grants for loft, wall and under floor insulation with a threshold of a yearly income of £30,000 available. The grants were also open to private tenants and landlords, with the expectation that private landlords would maintain properties at an EPC rating of C and above.

A significant risk was identified in care homes and how they would be able to keep the elderly residents warm with the increase in gas and electricity prices. The National Agency for Care Homes were making representations to the Government for a future funding package for care homes.

An increase in Berneslai Homes rent charges was expected with an estimated increase of between 5% and 10%. It was anticipated, but not guaranteed, that it would be around 5% as anything higher could cause tenants financial difficulties. Berneslai Homes were providing a support package of £50 per tenant to try and support people.

A significant rise in mental health issues was expected and there were concerns around how the already stretched Mental Health Service would cope. The Mental Health Partnership Board were aware of the issues on the back of the covid pandemic and risk assessments were being undertaken. Mental Health Services were being signposted through the literature available through warm spaces. It was hoped that within the warm spaces there would be an added benefit of removing some isolation for people and that communities would come together in order to help the elderly and those in need to get to those venues and access the services they would need.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) that witnesses be thanked for their attendance and contribution;
- (ii) that the report and presentation be noted;
- (iii) Witnesses to use further good practice to inform service delivery, including model Warm Space Charters from other local authorities; CILIP guidance on warm spaces; and fire safe guidance issued by the National Fire Chiefs Council to ensure the safety of residents;
- (iv) Witnesses to ensure Councillors are involved in the identification of those in need as well as support provided in their communities; and
- (v) Members to inform the Head of Commissioning of any schemes they may be aware of that have not been captured by the service.

Chair

This page is intentionally left blank

MEETING:	Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Growing Barnsley Workstream
DATE:	Tuesday 1 November 2022
TIME:	2.00 pm
VENUE:	Council Chamber, Barnsley Town Hall

MINUTES

Present

Councillors Ennis OBE (Chair), Bellamy, Bowler, Bowser, Cain, Clarke, Denton, Eastwood, P. Fielding, W. Fielding, Hayward, Lodge, Lowe-Flelo, Markham, McCarthy, Mitchell, Peace, Smith, Webster and Wray

27 Apologies for Absence - Parent Governor Representatives

No apologies for absence were received in accordance with Regulation 7(6) of the Parent Governor Representatives (England) Regulations 2001.

28 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interest

Councillor Lodge declared a non-pecuniary interest as he is a Berneslai Homes tenant.

Councillor Webster declared a non-pecuniary interest as his partner works for Anchor Homes.

29 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 11 October 2022 were received.

30 Affordable & Social Housing Provision in Barnsley

The following witnesses were welcomed to the meeting:

Matt O'Neill, Executive Director Growth & Sustainability, BMBC
 Kathy McArdle, Service Director Regeneration & Culture, BMBC
 Sarah Cartwright, Head of Strategic Housing, Sustainability & Climate Change, BMBC
 Alison Dalton, Group Leader Strategic Housing, BMBC
 Amanda Garrard, Chief Executive, Berneslai Homes
 Dave Fullen, Executive Director of Customer and Estate Services, Berneslai Homes
 Cllr Kevin Osborne, Cabinet Support Member Growth & Sustainability, BMBC

Members were invited to consider a report of the Report of the Executive Director Core Services and the Executive Director Growth and Sustainability (Item 4).

Councillor Osborne introduced the report and stressed that homes were an integral part of family life. Members were informed that an update on housing need and requirements would be covered in the presentation, along with a summary of the Council's work on affordable housing and how needs are addressed in the borough.

Sarah Cartwright further informed Members on the definition of affordable housing, which included different affordable tenures such as shared ownership and discounted market sale. The First Homes scheme was a new government initiative which would also provide affordable housing in the Borough, a report on the First Homes scheme would be taken to Cabinet imminently and a pilot with Keepmoat homes had commenced. In terms of affordable rent, the government definition stated that affordable rent should be up to 80% of market value. In regard to Council stock, the Authority had just over 18,000 units, along with 4500 Housing Association units. The waiting list fluctuates and currently stood at around 8000-9000. The Council loses around 150 homes due to Right to Buy every year and were currently delivering 50 homes through new-build and the small acquisitions programme. However, due to the lack of sufficient funding it was difficult for the Council to invest in large scale building projects in the current economic climate.

Alison Dalton took Members through a presentation. Members were informed of how the National Planning Policy Framework had informed both the adopted Masterplan Frameworks and Local Plan. This had fed into the strategic growth sites across the Borough, with around 6000 homes planned in addition to smaller Local Plan housing allocations. The Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) provided a breakdown of affordable dwelling types and the number of bedrooms required. The Council was currently reviewing the future of council housing in the borough via an independent consultant to review the evidence base, other wider considerations, and developing modelling to understand the impact of wider market factors.

Members were informed that in June 2022 key stakeholders met to discuss the Strategy for social housing stock and affordable housing provision in the Borough. The purpose of the session was for Barnsley Council and Berneslai Homes to jointly explore what the future of council housing looked like for Barnsley.

In the ensuing discussion, and in response to detailed questioning and challenge the following matters were highlighted:

In regard to comparisons with other Local Authorities, Councils such as Rotherham had a substantial building programme and also had a shared SHMA with Sheffield. Doncaster had a similar need profile to Barnsley but had a larger build programme, As an authority, Barnsley lacks land under its control when compared to neighbouring authorities which had inhibited larger building projects. Barnsley Council had worked closely with other South Yorkshire Local Authorities surrounding affordable housing policy, including the SYMCA housing framework of strategic priorities which included affordable housing. Some Housing Authorities worked across all four areas of South Yorkshire, and from a lettings perspective there were residents in crossover boundary areas on the waiting list.

Various discussions arose surrounding the Right to Buy scheme. The Council had a Right to Buy team, this year it was predicted that around 120-130 homes would be purchased under the Right to Buy scheme. Purchases had slowed down in

comparison to previous years due to the expectation that the housing market would cool. In regards to Right to Buy receipts, the calculations were complex in which the Council retained a small proportion which was invested into Council build programmes, however it could not be used alongside Homes England grants. The rest of the money was paid either to the government, towards administration fees or towards the payment of historical debts. Members would be provided with the Right to Buy financial breakdown. The Right to Buy scheme was an important tool for those wanting to access home ownership however there was not sufficient funding available to replace lost accommodation.

Along with Right to Buy receipts, the Council could use Housing Revenue Account (HRA) funding, Section 106 monies, and Section 106 commuted sums to support development. Section 106 and Section 106 commuted sums were negotiated between the Council and developers during the planning application process. The Council does use this funding for affordable homes, including building projects and acquisitions. The Council had historically not sold many large land and assets sites, however land and assets that had been sold for housing developments in the past had been general fund sites and therefore could not be used to build affordable housing.

Waiting lists are a key priority for the Council and Berneslai Homes, and the revised lettings policy would address some key concerns. It was noted that Berneslai Homes had around 150 people applying each week to the housing waiting list. Reviews are conducted frequently, and people were often removed from the register when a review is undertaken. This could be due to their housing needs being able to be met in an alternative way, and these reviews increased administration work for staff. It was noted that there was a need to undertake more conversations regarding managing expectations along with communication around realistic waiting times. There would be an enhanced customer experience with the updated lettings policy particularly in regards to managing expectations. People that already lived in Barnsley or had strong connections to the borough via family links or employment made up the vast majority of the waiting list and the choice-based system did take this into account when assessing priority. The lettings policy was also fully compliant with the armed forces covenant and granted reasonable preference to current and former members of HM forces and partners. Work on the new lettings policy and banding would be fully transparent and people would still have the right of appeal, local information from Members remained important in ensuring the right assessment of residents.

It was noted that Barnsley lacked brownfield sites in which to develop new building projects, especially in comparison to other South Yorkshire Local Authorities. Barnsley also had a tightly defined green belt and this therefore created a distinct disadvantage. SYMCA did provide funding for brownfield development, which historically Barnsley had not been able to take full advantage of. However, the Council had been able to secure brownfield funding for the Goldthorpe Market site and had also put in a bid for The Seam development. The Council worked with Homes England to maximise funding opportunities and live conversations were ongoing with SYMCA in regards to maximising brownfield funding opportunities.

The Council and Berneslai Homes engaged in a good working relationship with the Housing Associations operating across the borough. Housing Associations worked

particularly closely with Berneslai Homes letting service. Berneslai Homes monitored and reported on how many Housing Association properties were available in the borough and how many had been offered to Berneslai Homes, with Housing Associations consistently meeting targets. Housing Associations also worked with Berneslai Homes on finding solutions to specific and unique housing needs. The Council did not provide funding to Housing Associations but did have a framework of preferred Housing Associations if the Council wanted to dispose of sites such as garage sites.

Members had various questions regarding accessible housing provision in the Borough, including bungalows. It was noted that the Council currently had 4664 bungalows, and bids for bungalows had increased by 76% in the last year. Although bungalows were a popular accessible housing choice for elderly residents and those with medical needs, the Council and Berneslai homes had found via the SHMA that people wanted to stay in their own homes for longer rather than move due to their accessibility needs. Therefore, the Council and Berneslai homes were focused on making adaptations to residents' homes to ensure accessibility, along with reviewing sheltered accommodation in the borough. The Council would work closely with developers as the SHMA stated that 25% of new homes should be adaptable and 6% should be wheelchair accessible. This has recently been consulted on in the Design of New Housing Development Supplementary Planning Document. The Local Plan sets out aspirations on indicative yields which would be difficult to achieve if the Council built too many bungalows and this therefore was a balancing act. The Council historically had not sold many bungalows via Right to Buy, partly due to age restrictions. In regards to bungalows on private developments, there were particular issues with size and purchase prices, many new build bungalows were more expensive than family homes.

The target level of housing decency for the Council is 100%, this currently sat at 99.7%. The Council had engaged in work with the private sector to ensure that properties that don't meet health and safety requirements were thoroughly investigated by the housing enforcement team. Regarding empty or abandoned properties, the Council's empty homes officer had worked proactively with landlords and looked at acquiring empty properties in the Borough. A new Landlord Accreditation scheme was launched over the Summer to further ensure residents had access to homes that meet decency requirements.

The Council worked with developers in the Borough on providing affordable homes. Paragraph 65 of the NPPF confirmed that 10% of the total number of affordable homes should be available for affordable home ownership unless this would prejudice the ability to meet the identified affordable needs of specific groups. Most developments in Barnsley are policy compliant, if developers wish to contest the affordable housing provision, they would need to undertake a viability assessment which is assessed independently. First Homes is the governments new preferred scheme to provide discounted homes to first time buyers, discounts would be subsidised by the developer. The government set the eligibility criteria for the scheme, and earlier pilots with Keepmoat had proved successful. Barnsley Council has added a local eligibility criteria to offer First Homes to local people in the first instance.

Members raised queries surrounding garage sites. It was confirmed that the allocation and agreements for homes were separate from garage sites, all garages or plots were rented or under a license, and ownership remained with the Local Authority. A full audit of garage sites within the borough was ongoing, with an asset management strategy currently under review. It was noted there could be opportunity to use garage sites for infill development or electric vehicle charging points. Any funds from garage site sales that were conducted by the Council were used to fund new building projects or acquisitions. There was a need to look at sustainability when discussing the sale of garage sites as this could impact residents parking needs.

RESOLVED that:-

- (i) Witnesses be thanked for their attendance and contribution and the report be noted
- (ii) Members be provided with the financial breakdown of the Right to Buy scheme; and
- (iii) Members continue to provide local information to both the Council and Berneslai Homes

Chair

This page is intentionally left blank

Provisional Education Outcomes Across the Borough 2021-22

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform the Overview & Scrutiny Committee of the provisional education outcomes for children and young people in the borough across all Key Stages (KS), including those with Special Educational Needs/Disabilities (SEND), children who are looked after, and those who are home educated.
- 1.2 The Barnsley Schools' Alliance Education Improvement Strategy 2022-25 plan on a page (Item 4b - attached) outlines the overarching principles of the Alliance and the priorities for driving improvements in education over the coming years.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 Due to the impact of Covid during 2020 and 2021, all GCSE and A level examinations were cancelled, and outcomes for all students nationally were awarded based on teacher assessed grades. Results are therefore not directly comparable to results from these years. 2019 was the last year that students achieved results based upon the examinations they sat. As a result, all figures reported below will show a comparison between 2022 and 2019.
- 2.2 The provisional results reported in this document are those reported by schools and analysed using the Nexus software system which applies the usual methodology rules, and excludes results from Barnsley College, and therefore differs slightly to the Department for Education (DfE) underlying data.
- 2.3 The Council has worked with schools to gather and verify student level data using the result files from individual awarding bodies which has enabled them to provide a breakdown of outcomes by student group.
- 2.4 In addition, all statutory tests for students in Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), Phonics, Key Stage 1, and Key Stage 2 were assessed as they were in 2019 before the impact of Covid.
- 2.5 National Primary Attainment data and National KS4 (GCSE) data in the report relates to all schools. National KS5 (A-Level) data relates to all state funded schools and colleges.

Profile of schools in Barnsley

- 2.6 The table below indicates the number of local authority maintained schools and those which have converted to academies in the Borough as of 1st September 2022.

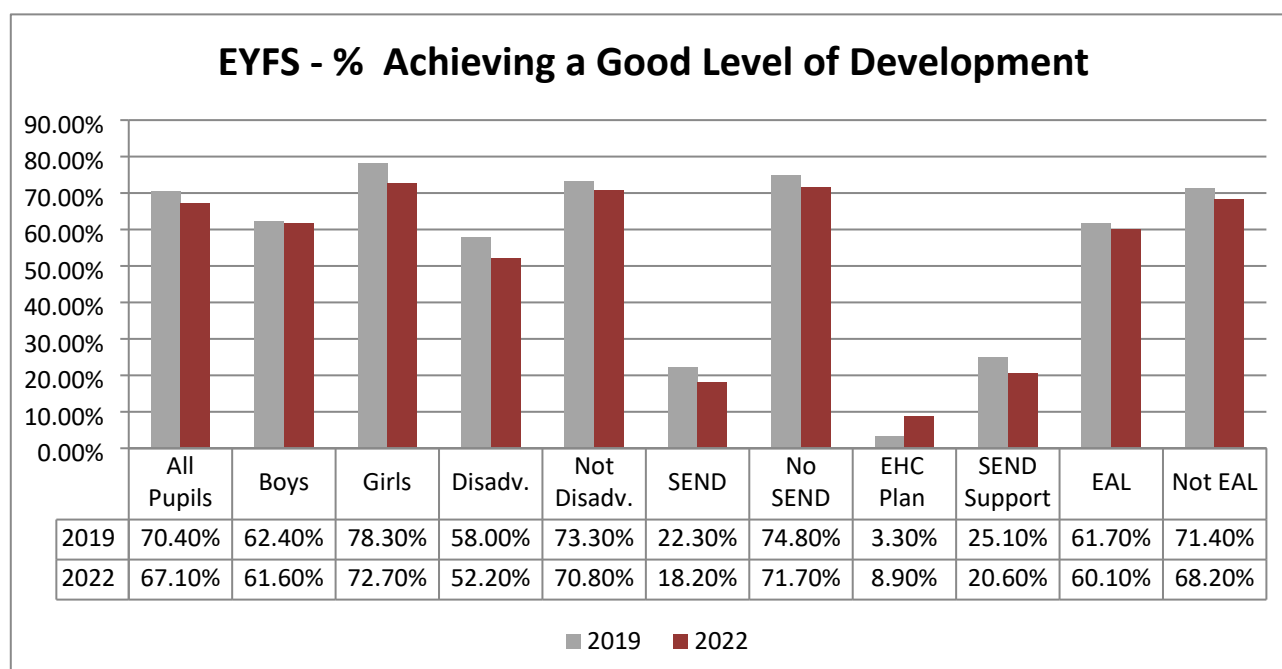
	Maintained Schools	Academy	Free School	Total
Primary	34	44	0	78
Secondary	1	9	1	11
Special	0	2	0	2
Student Referral Unit	0	1	0	1
Total	35	56	1	92*

*There are 92 state-funded schools in Barnsley. Holy Trinity is an all-through 3-16 academy but is counted here as two settings, one Primary and one Secondary. The new free school, Trinity St Edwards is a Secondary which opened in September 2021 and does not yet have a Year 11 cohort so is excluded from the result table and commentary below.

- 2.7 There are 15 Multi-Academy Trusts working in Barnsley. In addition to Primary and Secondary schools, there are two main providers of Post 16 / Key Stage 5 provision, Barnsley College, and Penistone Grammar School.
- 2.8 Disadvantaged students in this report are classified as any student who, on the day of the January 2021 census:
- was eligible for a Free School Meal
 - was a care leaver, or adopted from care
 - was in care
- 2.9 The Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND) cohort identified in this report are those students who have either SEN Support status or have an Education, Health & Care Plan (EHCP). There is also a breakdown of these individual cohorts available for comparison.
- 3.0 Current Position - Summary of Student Outcomes**
- 3.1 The provisional education outcomes for 2022 provide the Committee with insight into available data.
- 3.2 Compared to the national picture, the outcomes in Barnsley are most favourable at the end of early years (percentile rank 33) and in the phonics screening check at the end of Y1 (percentile rank 16) and Y2 (percentile rank 9). This reflects the hard work and commitment shared by all primary schools throughout the pandemic to maintain the best education for our youngest and most vulnerable pupils. The proportion of SEND pupils reaching the expected standard in the phonics screening check, for example, is now 7% above the national figure.
- 3.3 At the end of Y11 the trajectory for the attainment 8 figure for all students continues to increase, as we steadily narrow the gap towards national, which also aligns us with our statistical neighbours. Secondary schools continue to drive key methods of interventions and differentiated learning in order to support students achieve better outcomes.
- 3.4 In terms of our SEND students the percentage of students with an EHCP continue to outperform the national figure when considering the Attainment 8 score, Standard pass in The Basics, entry to EBacc and EBacc APS. This further demonstrates that the continuing professional development (CPD) support offered to staff is having real tangible outcomes in driving standards.
- 3.5 Performance of note: -
- Students with an EHC Plan made significant improvements in EYFS and are performing substantially higher than national.
 - The percentage of students achieving the expected standard in Phonics by the end of Year 1 is now above the national figure and we are outperforming all statistical neighbours, with all cohorts performing better when compared to 2019.
 - Disadvantaged students results in Year 1 Phonics remain stable which sees them significantly outperforming their peers nationally.
 - Outcomes for the percentage of students achieving both the Standard and Strong pass in The Basics is now above the national figure.
 - The Attainment 8 figure for all students continues to increase, closing the gap to national and putting us in line with our statistical neighbours.
 - The percentage of students entered for the EBacc remains above national.
 - The percentage of students with an EHCP continue to outperform the national figure when considering the Attainment 8 score, Standard pass in The Basics, entry to EBacc and EBacc APS.
 - Continued improvements in the outcomes for Looked After Children at Key Stage 4 with almost half of the cohort now achieving a Standard pass in The Basics, and over a quarter of the cohort achieving a Strong pass.
 - The average A Level grade for Barnsley improved to grade B- and puts us in line with the national average grade.
 - Sustained improvements to the percentage of students achieving AAB including 2 facilitating subjects, closing the gap to national.

4.0 Early Years Foundation Stage Outcomes (EYFS) (5 Years Old)

- 4.1 The key measure in EYFS is the percentage of children achieving a Good Level of Development (GLD).
- 4.2 The percentage of students reaching a Good Level of Development in Barnsley has decreased by 3.3 percentage points, from 70.40% in 2019 to 67.10% in 2022. Although Barnsley has seen a decrease, we still remain higher than the National figure of 65.20%.
- 4.3 As illustrated in the graph below, there was a decrease in performance across most student groups, other than the cohort of students with an EHC Plan between 2019 and 2022. Girls continue to do better than boys. Disadvantaged students showed the biggest decrease with only 52.20% of this cohort achieving the benchmark, compared to 58% in 2019.



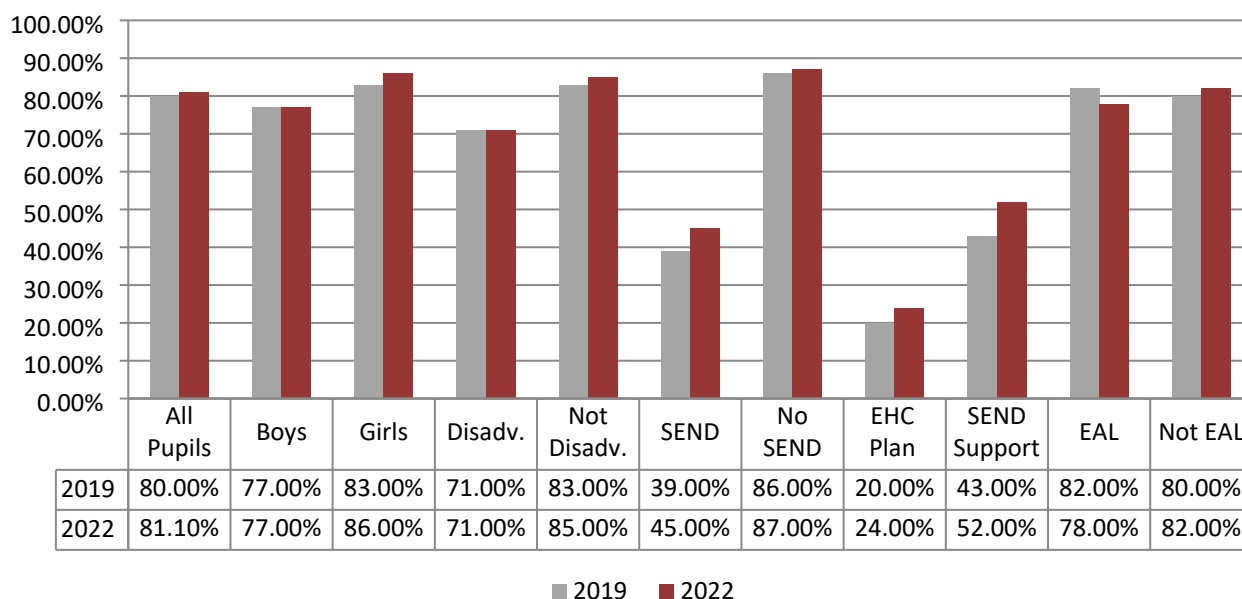
- 4.4 Data has not been published nationally for all local authorities for this indicator therefore it is not possible to provide information on rank or performance against South Yorkshire local authorities.

5.0 Key Stage 1 Outcomes (KS1) (6 – 7 Years Old)

Year 1 Phonics

- 5.1 At the end of Year 1, children are assessed on their Phonics knowledge. The gap between results for Barnsley children and national performance continues to grow and Barnsley are now performing 6.1 percentage points above the reported figure of 75% for students on a national level. 81.10% of Barnsley children are now working at the expected standard in Phonics in comparison to 80.00% in 2019.
- 5.2 As illustrated in the graph below, improvements were seen in all student groups other than those with English as an Additional Language (EAL) status. There was no increase from 2019 for Boys or our disadvantaged cohort. Students with SEND Support saw the biggest increase in this measure.

Year 1 Phonics - % Achieving Expected Standard

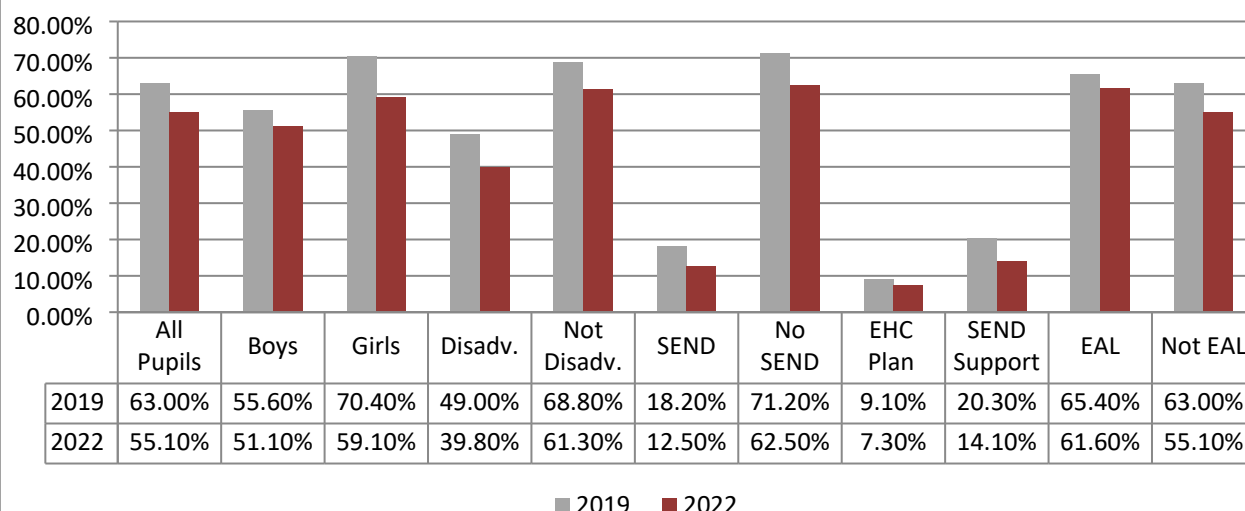


- 5.3 We are outperforming our statistical neighbours reported figure of 75.5% by 5.8 percentage points in this measure. In comparison to other local authorities in South Yorkshire, Barnsley outperformed Doncaster (76%), Rotherham (75%) and Sheffield (72%) in 2022. Data in the Department for Education's Phonics Statistical First Release is rounded.

Reading, Writing and Mathematics

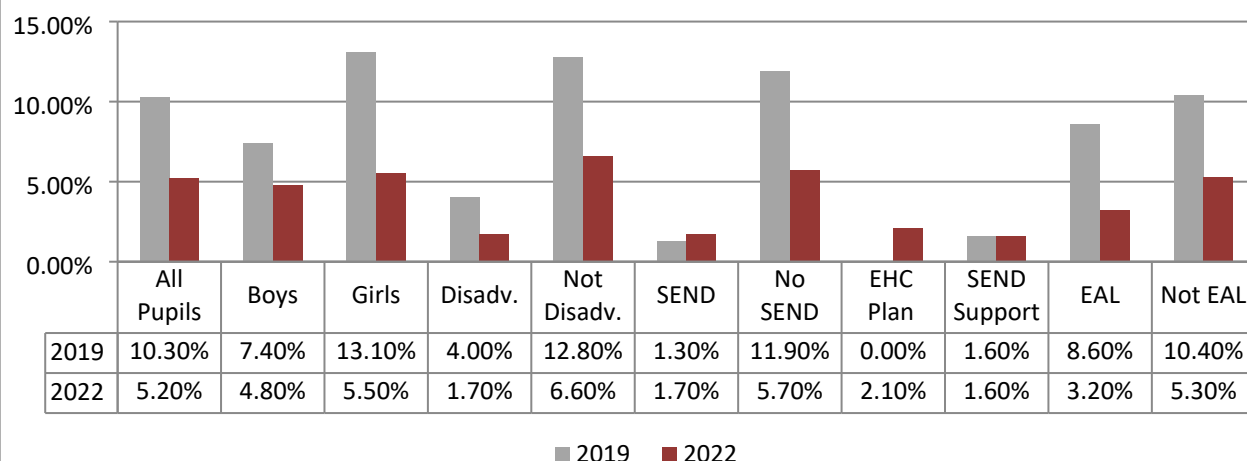
- 5.4 At Key Stage 1 the percentage of Barnsley students achieving the expected standard in Reading, Writing and Mathematics dropped by 7.9 percentage points to 55.10% in 2022 from 63% in 2019. Although we have seen a decrease in this measure, we are still performing higher than the nationally reported figure of 53.40%.
- 5.5 Data is not published nationally for all local authorities for this indicator therefore it is not possible to provide information on performance against South Yorkshire local authorities.
- 5.6 As illustrated in the graph below, all student groups saw a decrease in this indicator between 2019 and 2022, although girls saw the greatest decrease of 11.3 percentage points. Despite this decrease, girls are still outperforming boys.

KS1 - % Achieving Expected Standard in Reading, Writing and Mathematics



- 5.7 Although Barnsley have seen decreases in the number of students achieving the expected standard in Reading, Writing and Maths we are still performing above national when also considering the 3 elements separately. The gap to national continues to close in each element with Barnsley now performing higher than the national figure of 66.9% in Reading. This is significantly better than 2019 when the national figure was outperforming us in this measure. Barnsley are also performing above the national figure of 57.6% in Writing with 58.1% of our students achieving this. In Mathematics Barnsley remain in line with the reported national figure of 67.7%.
- 5.8 At Key Stage 1 the percentage of Barnsley students achieving greater depth in Reading, Writing and Mathematics dropped by 5.1 percentage points to 5.20% in 2022 from 10.30% in 2019. This now places us 0.70 percentage points below the national figure of 5.90%.
- 5.9 As illustrated in the graph overpage, the majority of student groups saw a decrease in this indicator between 2019 and 2022, with only students with SEND including EHC Plan and SEN Support seeing increases. Girls saw the biggest decrease in this measure but are still outperforming boys.

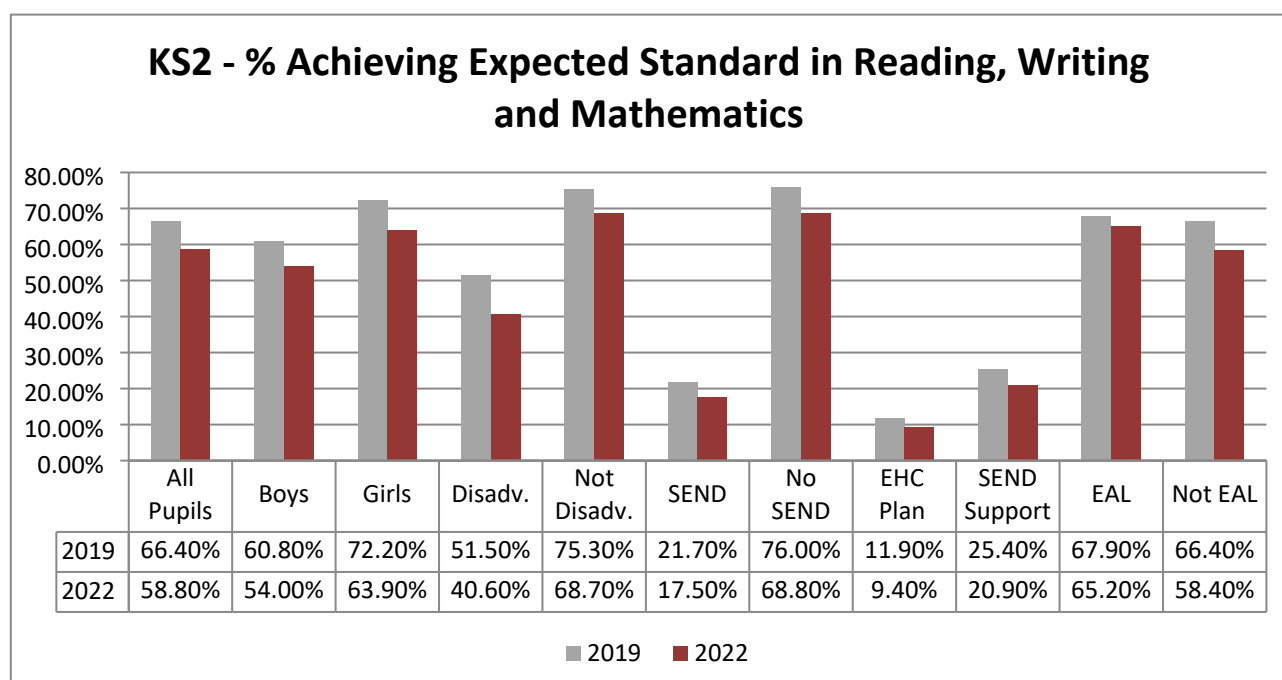
KS1 - % Achieving Greater Depth in Reading, Writing and Mathematics



- 5.10 Barnsley have seen decreases in the number of students achieving greater depth in Reading, Writing and Maths combined as well as when the 3 separate elements are considered separately. In terms of the percentage of students working at a greater depth in Reading, the gap with national has widened to 2.8 percentage points below due to Barnsley outcomes reducing at a greater rate than the reduction seen nationally. 15.2% of Barnsley students were assessed as working at a greater depth in 2022 in comparison to 20.6% in 2019.
- 5.11 Barnsley are also performing 0.9 percentage points below national in Writing and 2.1 percentage points below in Mathematics.
- 5.12 Data has not been published nationally for all local authorities for this indicator therefore it is not possible to provide information on rank or performance against South Yorkshire local authorities.

6.0 Key Stage 2 Outcomes (KS2) (11 Years Old)

- 6.1 The percentage of children achieving the expected standard in Reading, Writing and Mathematics decreased from 66.40% in 2019 to 58.80% in 2022 and is now only 0.2 percentage points below the national average of 59.0%.
- 6.2 The percentage of children working at greater depth also dropped by 2.5 percentage points from 8.20% in 2019 to 5.70% in 2022 resulting in the gap with national increasing to 1.30 percentage points below in this measure (based on rounded data).
- 6.3 As illustrated in the graph below, all student groups saw a decrease between 2019 and 2022 and boys continue to perform below girls. Disadvantaged students saw the greatest decrease at -10.9 percentage points.



- 6.4 The gap with national at the expected standard is now widest in Reading. In 2019 Barnsley performed 0.2 percentage points below national but in 2022, at 72.9%, we are 1.6 percentage points below. However, the gap in Reading and Mathematics has improved and is now 0.3 and 0.5 percentage points respectively below national with 69.8% students working at the expected standard in Reading and 71.9% students working at the expected standard in Mathematics.
- 6.5 The gap with national at the higher standard is widest in Reading with Barnsley reporting a figure of 24.9%, which is 2.9 percentage points lower than the national figure of 27.8%. Although we are lower than the national figure it is an improvement on the 22.5% of students achieving this measure in 2019.

- 6.6 Whilst an improvement has been seen in the percentage of students achieving the higher standard in Reading when compared to 2019, decreases have been seen in both Writing and Mathematics. 10.3% of students achieved the higher standard in Writing, which is a decrease of 5.9 percentage points from the 16.2% reported in 2019. In Mathematics 20.4% of students achieved greater depth which is a 5.8 percentage point decrease on the 26.2% of students reported in 2019.
- 6.7 The Reading progress score of -0.1 is in line with 2019 but is 0.2 lower than the national cohort, who have a progress score of +0.1.
- 6.8 The Writing progress score of +0.1 is an improvement on the -0.1 reported in 2019 and is now in line with the national cohort.
- 6.9 The Maths progress score of 0.1 is 0.3 points higher than the national cohort, who have a progress score of -0.2. Whilst we are still reporting higher than national, we are 0.4 points lower than the reported figure of 0.5 in 2019.

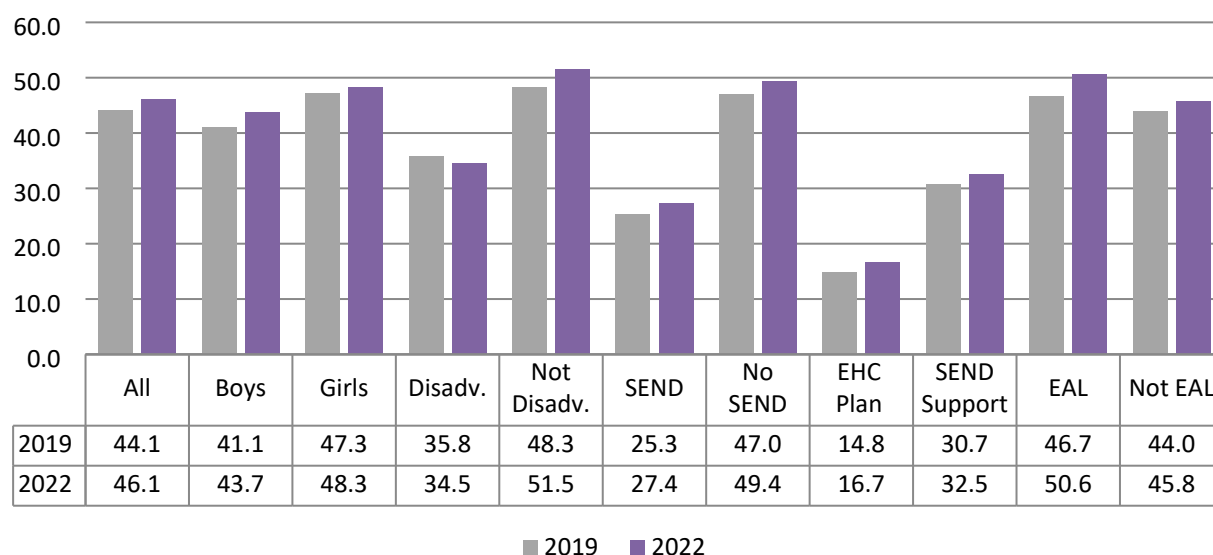
7.0 Key Stage 4 (GCSE) Outcomes

- 7.1 Previously the key performance measure at Key Stage 4 was the percentage of students achieving 5 A*-C grades, including English and Mathematics. This measure is no longer reported on. The significant performance measures are now Attainment 8, which measures students' attainment across a range of 8 qualifications and Progress 8 (not included for 2022 outcomes), which measures the average progress of each school's students against their average attainment level at the end of primary school. A progress score of 0.0 means that the progress students have made is, on average, in line with what is expected, given their starting point. A positive score means students on average, have made better than expected progress and a minus (-) score, less than expected progress.
- 7.2 Another change to measures at GCSE is a switch from reporting grades as letters (e.g. A-C) to reporting as numbers, with grades ranging from 1 to 9, with a 9 indicating the highest grade possible. Within the number grading system, a grade 4 is equivalent to a standard C and a grade 5 considered a strong C. Thus, the percentage of students achieving a grade 4 or above is broadly equivalent to the old measure of grade C and above.
- 7.3 We also report on the percentage of students achieving a grade 4 or above in both English Language or Literature and Mathematics – referred to as “The Basics”.
- 7.4 The English Baccalaureate (EBacc) is a set of subjects that keeps young people's options open for further study and future careers. It includes both English Language and English Literature, Mathematics, Sciences, Geography or History and a Language. The EBacc APS calculates a student's average point score across the subjects they take that fall within the EBacc qualification, allocating points to a student's best grades.

Attainment 8

- 7.5 The average attainment 8 score for Barnsley increased from 44.1 to 46.1. This is below the national average of 47.1. The increase seen locally between 2019 and 2022 closes the attainment 8 gap. Whilst Barnsley's Attainment 8 measure is below the national average, this is in line with the majority of Barnsley's statistical neighbours, which may reflect the disproportionate impact that Covid has had on disadvantaged communities
- 7.6 As the graph below illustrates, all but the disadvantaged cohort saw increases in this measure when compared to 2019. EAL students saw the largest increase.

KS4 - Attainment 8 Score



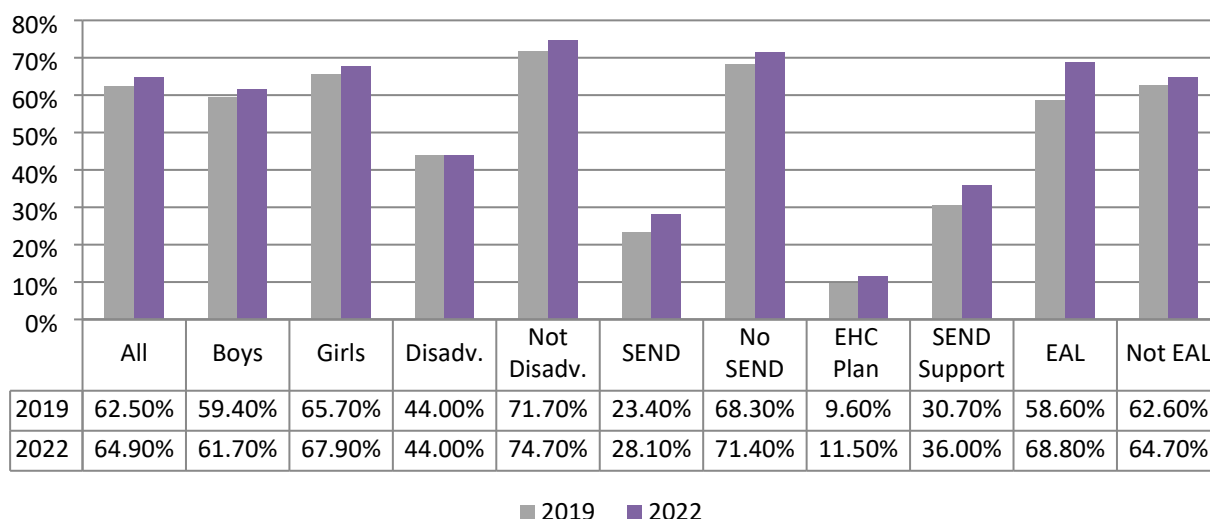
Progress 8

- 7.7 In 2022 the average Progress 8 score for Barnsley students receded to -0.2 from the 0.08 reported in 2019. The Progress 8 figure remains below the national average of -0.03 and also the projected regional figure of -0.07.
- 7.8 Barnsley sits below the Progress 8 figure for Doncaster (-0.1), Rotherham (-0.09) and Sheffield (-0.16).
- 7.9 As the graph below illustrates, all student groups saw a decline between 2019 and 2022. Only SEND as a group overall remained the same. EAL students retain a positive progress 8 score, as do students that are not disadvantaged. Disadvantaged students saw the largest decrease from 2019.

Standard Pass in English Language / Literature and Mathematics (The Basics)

- 7.10 In 2022, Barnsley saw an increase of 2.4 percentage points in performance from the 62.50% reported in 2019. 64.90% of students achieved a standard pass at grade 9 - 4 in The Basics. The increase in performance seen in Barnsley has now placed us above the national figure of 64.30%.
- 7.11 As the graph below illustrates, all cohorts have seen an increase in this measure since 2019. The disadvantaged cohort have remained the same with 44% of students achieving at least a Grade 4 in both English and Maths. The biggest increase seen, with an improvement of 10.2%, was in our EAL students.

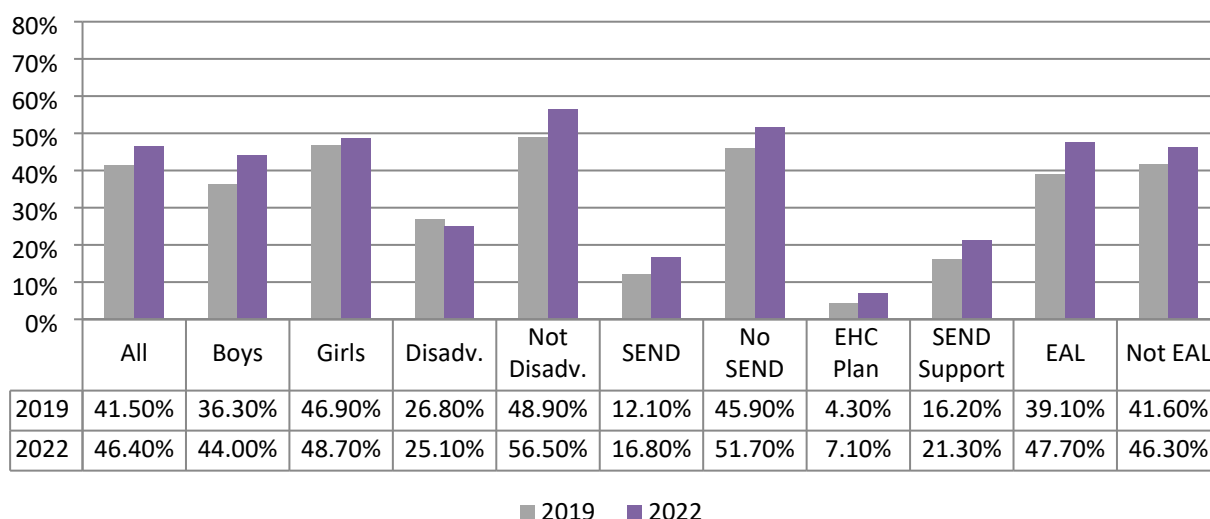
KS4 - % Basics in English and Maths (9-4 standard pass)



Strong Pass in English Language/Literature and Mathematics (The Basics)

- 7.12 In 2022, Barnsley saw an increase of 4.9 percentage points from the 41.50% of students reported as achieving this measure in 2019. 46.40% of students achieved a strong pass at grade 9 - 5 in The Basics which closes to the gap to national. Barnsley is still performing lower than the national figure of 46.60% but by only 0.20 percentage points rather than the 1.6 percentage points in 2019.
- 7.13 As the graph below illustrates, all groups, other than the disadvantaged cohort saw an increase in the Strong pass measure in the Basics between 2019 and 2022. The biggest increases seen was in our EAL and boys cohort.

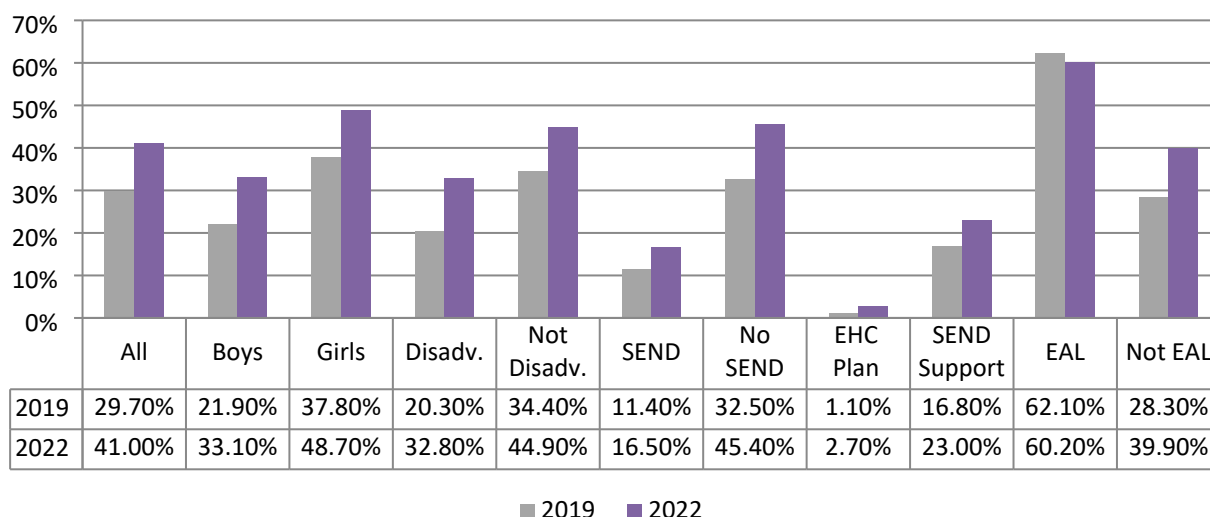
KS4 - % Basics in English and Maths (9 - 5 strong pass)



EBacc Entries

- 7.14 In 2022 Barnsley saw a significant increase when considering the number of students entered for the EBacc. 41% of students were entered compared to 36% of students in 2019. This is 5% higher than the 36% of students entered on a national level.
- 7.15 As the graph below illustrates, there was an increase in the number of students entered for EBacc in Barnsley when compared to 2019 in all cohorts, other than those students with EAL.

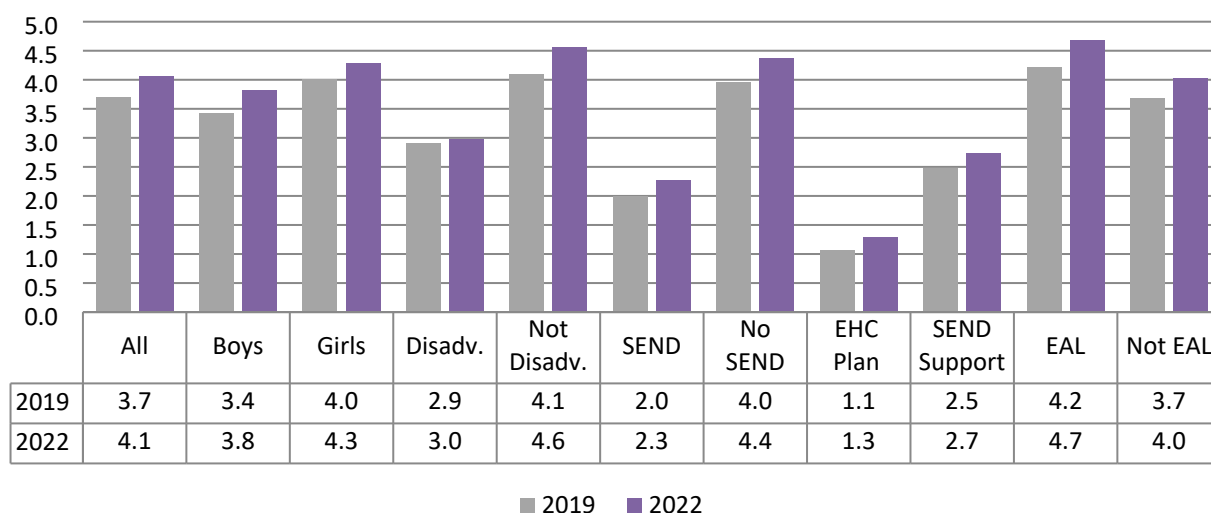
KS4 - % entered for EBACC



EBacc Average Point Score

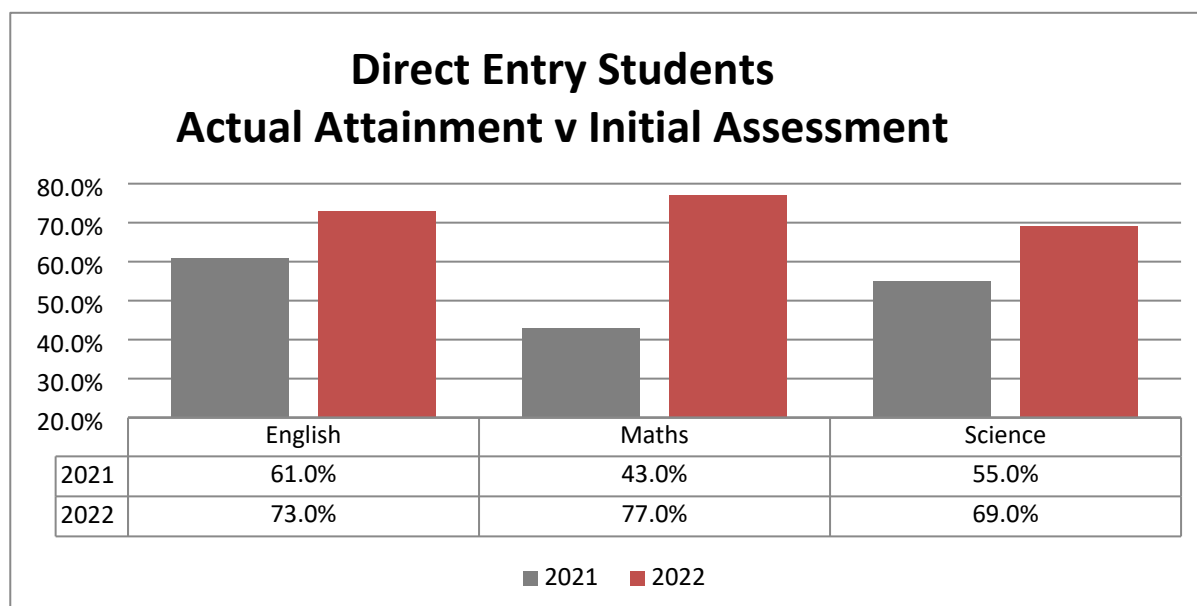
- 7.16 The average EBacc Average Point Score for Barnsley increased from 3.7 in 2019 to 4.10 in 2022. This increase now places Barnsley in line with the national figure reported, which is an improvement in 2019 when we were reporting 1.2 points below.
- 7.17 As the graph below illustrates, the biggest increase between 2019 and 2022, when considering the EBacc APS was in students with No Disadvantage and those with EAL, who saw an increase of 0.50 points. No cohorts saw a decrease in this indicator.

EBACC APS



8.0 Barnsley College

- 8.1 The published data for the local authority includes results for students at Barnsley College. 30 of these students were attending under the Direct Entry Scheme and data provided by the college shows that these students made better progress than expected based on their initial assessments in English, Mathematics and Science. The focus of this provision is to support young people with an alternative curriculum offer to reduce the risk of non-engagement with education. Barnsley College is one of the few colleges in the country to offer this scheme, and therefore our published results do not compare directly to other local authorities within the region. 73% of students secured a grade higher than their initial assessment in English which is higher than the 61% reported in 2021. 77% of students secured a grade higher in Mathematics which is 34% higher than the 2021 reported figure of 43%. In Science there were 69% of students who secured a grade higher seeing an improvement of 14% on the 55% reported in 2021. The graph below illustrates the outcomes for English and Maths achieved in 2022 compared to 2021.



9.0 Key Stage 5 Outcomes

- 9.1 Results are based on the DfE published data for Barnsley in comparison to all state funded schools and colleges in England.
- 9.2 DfE have not published setting level data for 2021 but both Penistone Grammar School and Barnsley College shared their headline outcomes with us.
- 9.3 Penistone Grammar only offer A level courses as part of their post 16 curriculum whilst Barnsley College offer A level courses alongside a variety of other level 3 vocational qualifications.

A Level Average Grade

- 9.4 The average A Level grade for Barnsley improved to a grade B- in 2022, which is an improvement on the Grade C seen as the average grade in 2019. This is in line with the average A Level grade in 2022 for all state funded schools and colleges nationally which is also reported as B-.

Percentage achieving AAB including 2 Facilitating Subjects

- 9.5 The percentage of Barnsley students achieving an AAB combination of grades (including two facilitating subjects such as History, Geography and Physics) increased by 8.4 percentage points from 9.0% in 2019 to 17.4% in 2022. Nationally there was an increase from 13.4% in 2019 to 20.6% in 2022. Whilst we are performing lower than national in this indicator, we have made progress at a faster rate and are continuing to close the gap.

Percentage achieving A*/A passes

- 9.6 The percentage of Barnsley students achieving A*/A passes increased to 26.1% in 2022 from 18.7% in 2019. Nationally there was an increase to 32.9% from 22.4%. The national increase has been faster than we have seen at a local authority level which further increases the gap.

Level 3 Outcomes

- 9.7 Results are based on the DfE published data for Barnsley in comparison to all state funded schools and colleges in England.

Average Grade – Applied General Qualifications

- 9.8 Applied General Qualifications are vocational qualifications which allow entry to a range of higher education courses either by meeting the entry requirements in their own rights or being accepted alongside other level 3 qualifications such as A levels. Many Applied General Qualifications are endorsed by employers and professional or trade bodies. In 2022, the average grade for Applied General qualifications improved to a Distinction + for Barnsley Local Authority, which matches the increase seen on a national level for all state funded schools and colleges.

Percentage achieving at least 2 substantial level 3 qualifications

- 9.9 Substantial level 3 qualifications are defined as qualifications that are at least the size of an A level, such as a BTEC diploma level 3. If a qualification is equal in size to 2 A levels it is counted as 2 substantial level 3 qualifications. In 2022, 97.9% of students in Barnsley achieved at least 2 substantial level 3 qualifications. This was an increase on the 72.6% in 2019. This was a greater increase than that seen for all state funded schools and colleges nationally which increased to 95.5% from 82.4% and now places us higher than national in this measure.

10.0 Outcomes for Children Looked After

- 10.1 Due to the impact of Covid, there is limited accurate data to compare academic achievements for young people between 2022 and 2021. Similarly, to the overall cohort comparison will be made to 2019. Where accurate data can be sourced for 2020 comparison this has been included. In 2022 there were 23 children who had been in the care of the Local Authority for more than 12 months at the 31st March 2021 and these are the children that we reference. The 23 children reported on in 2022 is 14 more children than 2019 and equal to the number of children reported in 2020 - it is these children that we report on here. Results have been gathered from schools and/or carers and may be subject to adjustments following any appeals.
- 10.2 This cohort has again seen the ongoing impact of Covid. Disruption to GCSE learning, revision and face to face learning have created environments of study outside of normal routine. 56% of learners had SEND status, which is 8.5 percentage points higher than 2019. 43% of learners are subject to an EHC Plan, which is 11.5 percentage points higher than 2019. Analysis carried out by the Virtual School Head confirms that results are positive, with 16 out of 23 (70%) achieving their personal targets. Multiple vulnerabilities or placement breakdown impacted on the outcomes for the students who were unable to meet their potential.
- 10.3 There were three children within the cohort with highly complex needs who found exams a significant challenge, one of these children did not sit any qualification examination.
- 10.4 There are some notable achievements including three students who achieved excellent scores in English and Maths, all being awarded a Grade 7. One student, who as a young mum has achieved her results despite significant time away from school as a result of pregnancy and early motherhood. Another students' results are also to be commended as significant placement breakdown and missing episodes impacted education greatly. This student still managed to obtain a grade and secure a post-16 placement.

Attainment 8

- 10.5 The average Attainment 8 score for the 2022 KS4 LAC cohort of 30.84 is 3.54 points higher than 2019.

Standard Pass in English Language/Literature and Mathematics (The Basics)

- 10.6 47.4% of students in the KS4 LAC cohort achieved Grade 4 or above in English, which is a significant improvement of 24.4 percentage points from the 23% reported in 2019.
- 10.7 57.9% of students in the KS4 LAC cohort achieved Grade 4 or above in Maths, which is an improvement of 27.2 percentage points from the 30.7% achieving in 2019.
- 10.8 47.4% of students achieved Grade 4 or above in both English and Maths which is again a 24.4 percentage point improvement from the 23% reported in 2019.

Strong Pass in English Language/Literature and Mathematics (The Basics)

- 10.9 In 2022, 31.6% of students achieved a Grade 5 or above in English which shows an improvement on the 25% reported in 2019.
- 10.10 31.6% of children in the LAC cohort also achieved a Grade 5 or above in Mathematics which is a notable improvement of 19.1 percentage points from 2019.
- 10.11 26.3% of LAC children achieved a Grade 5 or above in both English and Maths which is again a significant improvement on the 12.5% reported in 2019.
- 10.12 The Post 16 plans in place for each young person in the cohort are considered to be robust and appropriate. The virtual School has worked in collaboration with key partners to jointly plan appropriately post-16 destinations.

Post 16 Outcomes

- 10.13 Six young people successfully completed level 3 qualifications in 2021 with all of them going on to positive destinations of either university or employment. In addition, a further five young people have completed the first year of their level 3 courses.
- 10.14 Three care leavers have successfully completed degree studies in 2021 with an additional six young people being part way through their degree courses.

11.0 Outcomes for Children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

- 11.1 Numbers of SEND students across the authority are generally quite low and therefore outcomes can vary year on year due to the different primary needs of students in these cohorts.

EYFS – SEND

- 11.2 The EYFS 2022 SEND results are based on formally assessed examinations and are therefore not directly comparable to results from 2021 due to these being teacher assessed, therefore comparison to 2019 has been made throughout. Results in 2022 are based on 220 SEND students, 45 with an EHC Plan and 175 with SEND Support needs. National data is for State Funded Schools.
- 11.3 The percentage of the overall SEND cohort achieving a good level of development has decreased by 4.1 percentage points since 2019, which is a similar trend the national picture. The national trend has decreased at a faster pace and by 6.2 percentage points which as a result has closed the gap and now sees Barnsley more in line with the national outcome.

EYFS Good Level of Development	2019	2022
Barnsley – SEND	22.3%	18.2%
National – SEND	25.0%	18.8%

- 11.4 Children with an EHC Plan have seen significant improvements in this measure since 2019 with an increase of 5.6 percentage points. This is in contrast to the national picture who have seen a decrease of 1.3 percentage points. As a result, Barnsley are now higher than national by 5.2 percentage points.

EYFS Good Level of Development	2019	2022
Barnsley – EHC Plan	3.3%	8.9%
National – EHC Plan	5.0%	3.7%

- 11.5 Both Barnsley and the national picture have seen decreases with the SEND Support cohort however the national rate has decreased at a higher rate, which further closes the gap.

EYFS Good Level of Development	2019	2022
Barnsley – SEND Support	25.1%	20.6%
National – SEND Support	29%	22.9%

Year 1 Phonics – SEND

- 11.6 The Year 1 Phonics 2022 SEND results are based on formally assessed examinations and are therefore not directly comparable to results from 2021 due to these being teacher assessed, therefore comparison to 2019 has been made throughout. Results in 2022 are based on 342 SEND students, 79 with an EHC Plan and 263 with SEND Support needs. National data is for State Funded Schools.
- 11.7 The percentage of the overall SEND cohort achieving the expected standard in Phonics by the end of Year 1 in Barnsley has increased by 7 percentage points. This is in contrast to the national picture which has seen a decrease of 5 percentage points. The significant progress seen by Barnsley in this measure now places us above national which hasn't been seen since 2017.

Year 1 Phonics – Expected Standard	2019	2022
Barnsley – SEND	39%	45%
National – SEND	43%	38%

- 11.8 The percentage of children achieving the expected standard in Phonics continues to improve, which is the opposite of the picture seen at a national level. Barnsley has seen an increase of 4%, in contrast to the decrease of 1% on a national level and as a result Barnsley are now performing better at this benchmark.

Year 1 Phonics – Expected Standard	2019	2022
Barnsley – EHC Plan	20%	24%
National – EHC Plan	20%	19%

- 11.9 Barnsley has seen an impressive 9 percentage point increase when considering the SEND Support cohort at this measure, which is a contrast to the 4% decrease seen nationally. Barnsley are now performing higher than national.

Year 1 Phonics – Expected Standard	2019	2022
Barnsley – SEND Support	43%	52%
National – SEND Support	48%	44%

Key Stage 1 – SEND

- 11.10 The Key Stage 1 2022 SEND results are based on formally assessed examinations and are therefore not directly comparable to results from 2021 due to these being teacher assessed, therefore comparison to 2019 has been made throughout. Results in 2022 are based on 401 SEND students, 96 with an EHC Plan and 305 with SEND Support needs. National data is for State Funded Schools.
- 11.11 The percentage of the overall SEND cohort achieving the expected standard in Reading, Writing and Mathematics by the end of Key Stage 1 in Barnsley has seen a decrease of 5.7 percentage points. There has been a 4 percentage point decrease at a national level which has widened the gap.

Key Stage 1 – RWM Combined	2019	2022
Barnsley – SEND	18.2%	12.5%
National – SEND	19%	15%

- 11.12 The percentage of children achieving the expected standard in Reading, Writing and Mathematics by the end of Key Stage 1 has seen a decrease of 1.8 percentage points when compared to 2019. This is a similar trend to the national picture who have also seen a decrease with this cohort. Whilst a decrease has been seen, Barnsley are still performing better than national.

Key Stage 1 – RWM Combined	2019	2022
Barnsley – EHC Plan	9.1%	7.3%
National – EHC Plan	7.0%	6.5%

- 11.13 There has been a 6.2 percentage point decrease when considering the SEND Support cohort in this measure which is reflected in the national picture, although the smaller decrease of 3.9 percentage points seen on a national level has further widened the gap.

Key Stage 1 – RWM Combined	2019	2022
Barnsley – SEND Support	20.3%	14.1%
National – SEND Support	21.0%	17.1%

Key Stage 2 - SEND

- 11.14 The Key Stage 2 2022 SEND results are based on formally assessed examinations and are therefore not directly comparable to results from 2021 due to these being teacher assessed, therefore comparison to 2019 has been made throughout. Results in 2022 are based on 583 SEND students, 171 with an EHC Plan and 412 with SEND Support needs. National data is for State Funded Schools.

- 11.15 The percentage of the overall SEND cohort achieving the expected standard in Reading, Writing and Mathematics by the end of Key Stage 2 in Barnsley has seen a decrease of 4.2 percentage points. This is similar to the decrease seen at a national level resulting in the gap to national remaining unchanged.

Key Stage 2 – RWM Combined	2019	2022
Barnsley – SEND	21.7%	17.5%
National – SEND	22.0%	18.0%

- 11.16 The percentage of children achieving the expected standard in Reading, Writing and Mathematics by the end of Key Stage 2 has seen a decrease of 2.5 percentage points when compared to 2019. The national decrease of 2 percentage points continues to widen the gap in the measure.

Key Stage 2 – RWM Combined	2019	2022
Barnsley – EHC Plan	11.9%	9.4%
National – EHC Plan	9.0%	7.0%

- 11.17 There has been a 4.5 percentage point decrease when considering the SEND Support cohort in this measure. Although we are still below the national figure, the gap continues to close and we are now reporting in line with the national figure.

Key Stage 2 – RWM Combined	2019	2022
Barnsley – SEND Support	25.4%	20.9%
National – SEND Support	25.0%	21.0%

Key Stage 4 - SEND

- 11.18 The KS4 2022 SEND results are based on formally assessed examinations and are therefore not directly comparable to results from 2021 due to these being teacher assessed, therefore comparison to 2019 has been made throughout. Results in 2022 are based on 352 SEND students, 113 with an EHC Plan and 239 with SEND Support needs. National data is for State Funded Schools.

- 11.19 The Attainment 8 score of SEND students has increased in 2022. Barnsley's increase of 2.1 points in comparison to the national increase of 1.7 points continues to close the gap in this measure.

KS4 Attainment 8 Score	2019	2022
Barnsley - SEND	25.3	27.4
National - SEND	27.6	29.3

- 11.20 The Attainment 8 score of SEND students with an EHCP further improved in 2022 and remains above the national average for the group. The increase of 1.9 points is above the increase of 0.6 points seen nationally.

KS4 Attainment 8 Score	2019	2022
Barnsley – EHC Plan	14.8	16.7
National – EHC Plan	13.7	14.3

- 11.21 The Attainment 8 score of SEND students with SEND Support increased in 2022 but still remains below the national average for the group. The national average saw an increase of 2.2 percentage points, in comparison to an increase in the Barnsley figure of 1.8 resulting in the gap to national widening from 1.9 points below to 2.3 points below.

KS4 Attainment 8 Score	2019	2022
Barnsley – SEND Support	30.7	32.5
National – SEND Support	32.6	34.8

- 11.22 The percentage of SEND students achieving a Standard pass in the Basics improved in 2022 but remains below the national average for the group. The increase of 4.7 percentage points from 2019 was also below the increase seen nationally of 5.3 percentage points, resulting in the gap widening from 3.3 percentage points below to 3.9 percentage points below.

KS4 Basics 4-9 Standard Pass	2019	2022
Barnsley - SEND	23.4%	28.1%
National - SEND	26.7%	32.0%

- 11.23 The percentage of SEND students with an EHC Plan achieving a Standard pass in the Basics further improved in 2022 but remains below the national average for the group. The increase of 1.9 percentage points is also below the national increase of 2.3 percentage points further increasing the gap to national.

KS4 Basics 4-9 Standard Pass	2019	2022
Barnsley – EHC Plan	9.6%	11.5%
National – EHC Plan	11.1%	13.4%

- 11.24 The percentage of SEND students with SEND Support needs achieving a Standard pass in the Basics increased in 2022 but remains below the national average for the group. The increase of 5.3 percentage points still results in the gap to national widening as the national picture saw an increase of 6.6 percentage points.

KS4 Basics 4-9 Standard Pass	2019	2022
Barnsley – SEND Support	30.7%	36.0%
National – SEND Support	32.3%	38.9%

- 11.25 The percentage of SEND students achieving a Strong pass in the Basics improved in 2022 but remains below the national average for the group. The increase of 4.7 percentage points was greater than the national increase of 4.4 percentage points. As a result, the gap to national closed from 1.7 percentage points below to 1.4 percentage points below.

KS4 Basics 5-9 Strong Pass	2019	2022
Barnsley - SEND	12.1%	16.8%
National - SEND	13.8%	18.2%

- 11.26 The percentage of SEND students with an EHC Plan achieving a Strong pass in the Basics decreased in 2022 and is now above the national average for the group. The increase of 2.8 percentage points was greater than the increase of 1.4 percentage point which continues to close the gap with this cohort.

KS4 Basics 5-9 Strong Pass	2019	2022
Barnsley – EHC Plan	4.3%	7.1%
National – EHC Plan	5.5%	6.9%

- 11.27 The percentage of SEND students with SEND Support needs achieving a Strong pass in the Basics improved in 2022 and but is now below the national average for the group. The increase of 5.1 percentage points was less than the national increase of 5.4

KS4 Basics 5-9 Strong Pass	2019	2022
Barnsley – SEND Support	16.2%	21.3%
National – SEND Support	16.9%	22.3%

- 11.28 The percentage of SEND students entered for EBACC improved in 2022 and is now above the national average for the group. The significant increase of 5.1 percentage points is much greater than the national increase of 0.6 percentage points resulting in the gap to national closing from 2.1 percentage points below to a pleasing 2.4 percentage points above.

KS4 Entry to EBACC	2019	2022
Barnsley - SEND	11.4%	16.5%
National - SEND	13.5%	14.1%

- 11.29 The percentage of SEND students with an EHC Plan entered for EBACC increased again in 2022 but remains below the national average for the group. The increase of 1.6 percentage points was greater than the national increase of 0.1 which continues to close the gap.

KS4 Entry to EBACC	2019	2022
Barnsley – EHC Plan	1.1%	2.7%
National – EHC Plan	4.0%	4.1%

- 11.30 The percentage of SEND students with SEND Support entered for EBACC increased again in 2022 and remains above the national average for the group. The increase of 6.2 percentage points was significantly greater than the increase of 0.9 percentage points seen nationally.

KS4 Entry to EBACC	2019	2022
Barnsley – SEND Support	16.8%	23.0%
National – SEND Support	16.9%	17.8%

- 11.31 The EBACC Average Point Score for students with SEND remained at 2.3 in 2022 which is an increase of 0.3 percentage points when compared to 2019. Nationally there was an increase of 0.2 percentage points. As a result, the gap to national continues to close at 0.1 points below.

KS4 EBACC APS	2019	2022
Barnsley - SEND	2.0	2.3
National - SEND	2.2	2.4

- 11.32 The EBACC Average Point Score for students with an EHCP saw an increase of 0.2 percentage points in 2022 when compared to 2019. Nationally there was no change for this group. As a result, Barnsley are now reporting higher than the National picture in this indicator.

KS4 EBACC APS	2019	2022
Barnsley – EHC Plan	1.1	1.3
National – EHC Plan	1.1	1.1

- 11.33 The EBACC Average Point Score for students with SEND Support increased from 2.5 in 2019 to 2.7 in 2022. Nationally there was also an increase of 0.2 percentage points. As a result, the gap to national remains the same at 0.2 percentage points below.

KS4 EBACC APS	2019	2022
Barnsley – SEND Support	2.5	2.7
National – SEND Support	2.7	2.9

12.0 Elective Home Education (EHE)

- 12.1 All parents have a duty under Section 7 of the Education Act 1996 to ensure that their children receive an efficient, full-time education suitable to their age, ability, and aptitude, either by regular attendance at school or otherwise. Other options include parents effectively educating their children at home.
- 12.2 Parents may decide to exercise their right to home educate their child from a very early age, so some children may never have been enrolled in school. Others are withdrawn from mainstream school at various stages up to the end of compulsory school age.
- 12.3 We want the home-educated child to have a positive experience by developing productive and supportive working relationships with parents and by working together to ensure the best educational interests of the child.
- 12.4 Barnsley EHE is tracked and managed by the Education Welfare Service, who register all young people at the point of notification. This register forms part of the Children Not in School Register which is managed subject to DfE guidance and returns.
- 12.5 To support the registration of EHE and to ensure that EHE is chosen for the right reasons, an Education Welfare Officer visits the family home to explain the process of EHE and capture the views of the child. This registration process supports the service in ensuring students are safeguarded and that the education provided by parents is of a suitable standard.
- 12.6 The Education Welfare Service has created an EHE Education Welfare Officer (EWO) role to improve the offer to children, young people and their families and supplement the service's work with vulnerable groups alongside the EHE advisor role. Regular in-service reviews are being undertaken and will be reported to Barnsley Alliance, the Departmental Management Team (DMT) and lead member briefings on a termly basis. Early indications are that interventions are resulting in applications back into mainstream school and that contact and intervention with young people and families are timelier.

- 12.7 The service strategy for the development of the EHE/EWO role starts with an understanding of the overall cohort and the individual circumstances of the families involved. The cases are RAG rated with the most vulnerable and concerning families being targeted. The strategic focus includes the following groups:
- COVID anxious families
 - Non-contact families
 - Unsuitable education – School Attendance Orders
 - Vulnerable groups including those with an Early Help plan
 - Vulnerable groups with an EHCP
 - Vulnerable groups including those with a Social Worker
 - College cohort
 - Movement of children from EHE to ‘Child Missing Education’ (CME) when education is unsuitable
- 12.8 Our work in relation to children with a Social Worker has begun, involves contact and visits by the EHE EWO, attendance at Children in Need (CIN), Child Protection (CP) and Strategy meetings and liaison with partner agencies.
- 12.9 The additional capacity created by the EHE EWO will build upon the service focus of returning children to school where EHE has been chosen by parents when they feel they have no other option or where the education provided is not suitable. During the 21/22 academic year there were 91 students who returned to school roll following a period of EHE. We aim to increase this figure through earlier intervention with families and strong partnership working with schools and partners such as school admissions to identify appropriate school places.
- 12.10 EHE is high on the Local Authority agenda and is a standing agenda item on the Barnsley Alliance Board. Barnsley Safeguarding Partnership takes a keen interest in the number of children on EHE and approves the policies and procedures in relation to managing EHE as part of the development of a more inclusive local schools system based upon consistent and coherent policies relating to attendance, behaviour, exclusions and the promotion of safeguarding and wellbeing in all schools and settings. Schools are key players in exploring the choice made by parents and the views of the child and must support children to remain in school if parental choice is driven by dissatisfaction with school. Fair Access Protocols support children back into education to prevent any delays in the system. Training has been delivered across the sector in relation to EHE and the responsibilities of professionals in relation to keeping children in this community safe.
- 12.11 The breakdown of children and young people who are educated at home as of 9th November 2022 is shown in the table below.

Year Group	Number of Students
1	9
2	17
3	17
4	19
5	26
6	26
7	36
8	63
9	69
10	84
11	120
Total	486

- 12.12 This equates to 114 students at primary school age and 372 students at secondary school age. In terms of the number of students per Key Stage this equates to:
- 12.13 KS1 – 26 students; KS2 – 88 students; KS3 – 168 and KS4 – 204 students.
- 12.14 The number of students who are home educated as of 9th November 2022 has decreased by 3.57 percentage points on the 504 students who were home educated for the same period last year.

13.0 Future Plans & Challenges

- 13.1 The Office for National Statistics (ONS) in its analysis of remote learning during the Pandemic in England (April 2020 – June 2021) reported that the largest gaps in learning covered between in-school students and those learning online were in neighbourhoods with the largest proportion of children eligible for free school meals (an indicator used as a proxy for deprivation in the study) and the lowest levels of parental instruction.
- 13.2 Therefore, enabling all students to achieve their potential through attendance at a good school and ensuring consistent provision for all will better equip them to continue to be engaged in training, education, and employment, access the local labour market, and become more resilient against the effects of deprivation.
- 13.3 Continuing to improve the attainment of disadvantaged students and closing the gap in outcomes between such students and their peers, is a priority of the Barnsley Alliance for School Improvement. This is pursued, rigorously, by the Alliance's 'Developing Leadership Capacity' Sub-Group and Special Educational Needs (including Disabilities) (SEND) Oversight Board. SEND improvements are identified as a specific priority within the Barnsley Alliance Education Improvement Strategy.

Action to Improve Education Outcomes

- 13.4 Barnsley continues to work with school and academy leaders to deliver a sector-led education improvement strategy. This model has proved effective in driving up standards in Barnsley schools and academies.
- 13.5 Barnsley Schools' Alliance Education Improvement Strategy was launched at the start of the academic term as the vehicle to support and drive the improvement of educational outcomes through our collaborative efforts.
- 13.6 The strategy builds upon our ongoing commitments to provide timely and early help and targeted support as well as prevention and intervention, keeping children safe and well in education settings and enabling them to thrive in a progressive, supportive, and inclusive environment.
- 13.7 The key priorities for raising attainment by the end of the primary phase for all pupils, especially disadvantaged pupils, and those with SEND, are:
- To further improve the proportion of pupils achieving the expected standard in the phonics screening check by the end of Year 1.
 - To ensure that attainment by the end of Key Stage 1 improves to at least pre-pandemic levels and better.
 - To improve pupils' progress in reading so that attainment improves at both standards by the end of Key Stage 2.
 - To ensure that more pupils achieve the higher standard by the end of Key Stage 2.
- 13.8 In addition, the Alliance continues to focus support and challenge activities across both phases of education (secondary and primary) on additional key priorities within the strategy such as:
- To improve attendance and develop better access to alternative provision for students at risk of exclusion.
 - To build leadership capacity which empowers leaders at all levels to develop a sustainable model of continuous improvement across all Barnsley schools.
 - To ensure all children have access to an enriched curriculum that prepares them for each key transitional stage of their education

- 13.9 The Barnsley Schools' Alliance continues to work with key stakeholders, such as the Exchange Teaching Hub and Tykes Teaching Alliance, to ensure a comprehensive CPD support offer is in place to continue strengthening practice across settings:
- 13.10 An effective model of primary peer review has been developed by system leaders within the Barnsley Schools' Alliance to promote professional development and improve the accuracy of self-evaluation. This academic year, our priority is to secure the engagement of primary headteachers from LA maintained schools and academies to implement the model. As a result, we expect improvements in the precision and effectiveness of school improvement activities to positively impact on the quality of education provided by the primary sector.
- 13.11 Equally at Secondary phase colleagues are cited on continuing to strengthen and share best practice across the borough, improving networking opportunities across all academies. Secondary Heads meetings happen regularly with all leaders being well connected and focused upon clear success measures to monitor progress and future actions. This agreed collective approach will naturally in turn see positive tangible outcomes for all students.

14.0 Invited Witnesses

- 14.1 The following witnesses have been invited to today's meeting to answer questions from the OSC.
- Carly Speechley - Executive Director, Children's Services, BMBC
 - Nina Sleight - Service Director Education, Early Start & Prevention, Children's Services, BMBC
 - Anna Turner - Head of Service, Education & Partnerships, Children's Services, BMBC
 - Neil Wilkinson - Projects and Contracts Manager, Employability & Skills, Place, BMBC
 - Tom Smith - Head of Employment & Skills, Place, BMBC
 - Jane Allen - Service Manager, Education Welfare and Inclusion, Children's Services, BMBC
 - Helen Collins - Senior Performance and Intelligence Officer, Core Services, BMBC
 - Ken Merry (Barnsley College) - Co-Chair of Barnsley Schools' Alliance
 - Lee McClure (Springvale Primary) - Co-Chair of Barnsley Schools' Alliance
 - Paul Crook (Penistone Grammar School) - Secondary Heads Chair, Barnsley Schools' Alliance
 - Yiannis Kouris, CEO & Principal, Barnsley College
 - Cllr Trevor Cave, Cabinet Spokesperson, Children's Services

15.0 Possible Areas for Investigation

- 15.1 Members may wish to ask questions around the following areas. The first four questions were raised by young people following a recent session with the committee :-
- How are young people supported to prepare for adult life, including Looked After Children, e.g. Writing a CV, developing skills to make them more employable, budgeting, being a home-owner?
 - How do you ensure there is equality of access to information and the development of life skills across secondary education providers?
 - What is available in the area to provide young people with work experience?
 - What support is provided to young people to help them prepare for exams and handle the associated anxieties and pressures?
 - What are the main barriers to further improving educational outcomes in Barnsley?
 - What value does the Alliance add to improving outcomes for young people and how do you know that you are doing the right things at the right time?
 - What are the ambitions of the strategy? What do you expect education outcomes in Barnsley to look like in 2025?

- How confident are you that the actions identified to improve education outcomes in the borough will be effective?
- What is being done to prevent the cost of living crisis having a further negative impact on the educational attainment of disadvantaged pupils?
- How do you know that schools rated as 'Good' and 'Outstanding' continue to operate at that level?
- How do you know whether support provided to schools to help them improve is effective?
- Is there any good practice which can be taken from the positive results as part of the Direct Entry Scheme at the college which could be used to improve performance in schools? If so, what?
- Does the College have the capacity to continue to offer an alternative curriculum (Direct Entry Scheme) if demand increases in the future?
- What is in place to support staff to manage demanding workloads and to meet the needs of pupils with increasingly complex needs?
- To what extent are all schools engaged and contributing to the work of Barnsley Alliance in achieving school improvement?
- What is the expectation for those educated at home to be taught the Physical, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) part of the curriculum, including relationships and sex education, Prevent etc?
- What can Elected Members do to support the improvement of educational attainment in Barnsley?

16.0 Background Papers and Useful Links

Barnsley Schools' Alliance Education Improvement Strategy Plan 2022-25:-

<https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/media/22358/bsa-education-improvement-strategy-2022-2025.pdf>

17.0 Glossary

APS	Average Point Score
CIN	Child in Need
CME	Child Missing Education
CP	Child Protection
CPD	Continuous Professional Development
DfE	Department for Education
EAL	English as an Additional Language
EBacc	English Baccalaureate
EHC(P)	Education Health & Care (Plan)
EHE	Elective Home Education
EWO	Education Welfare Officer
EYFS	Early Years Foundation Stage
GLD	Good Level of Development
KS	Key Stage
LA	Local Authority
LAC	Looked After Children
ONS	Office for National Statistics
OSC	Overview & Scrutiny Committee
SEND	Special Education Needs and/or Disability

18.0 Officer Contact

Jane Murphy, Scrutiny Officer, Scrutiny@barnsley.gov.uk
19 December 2022

This page is intentionally left blank

EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT STRATEGY PLAN

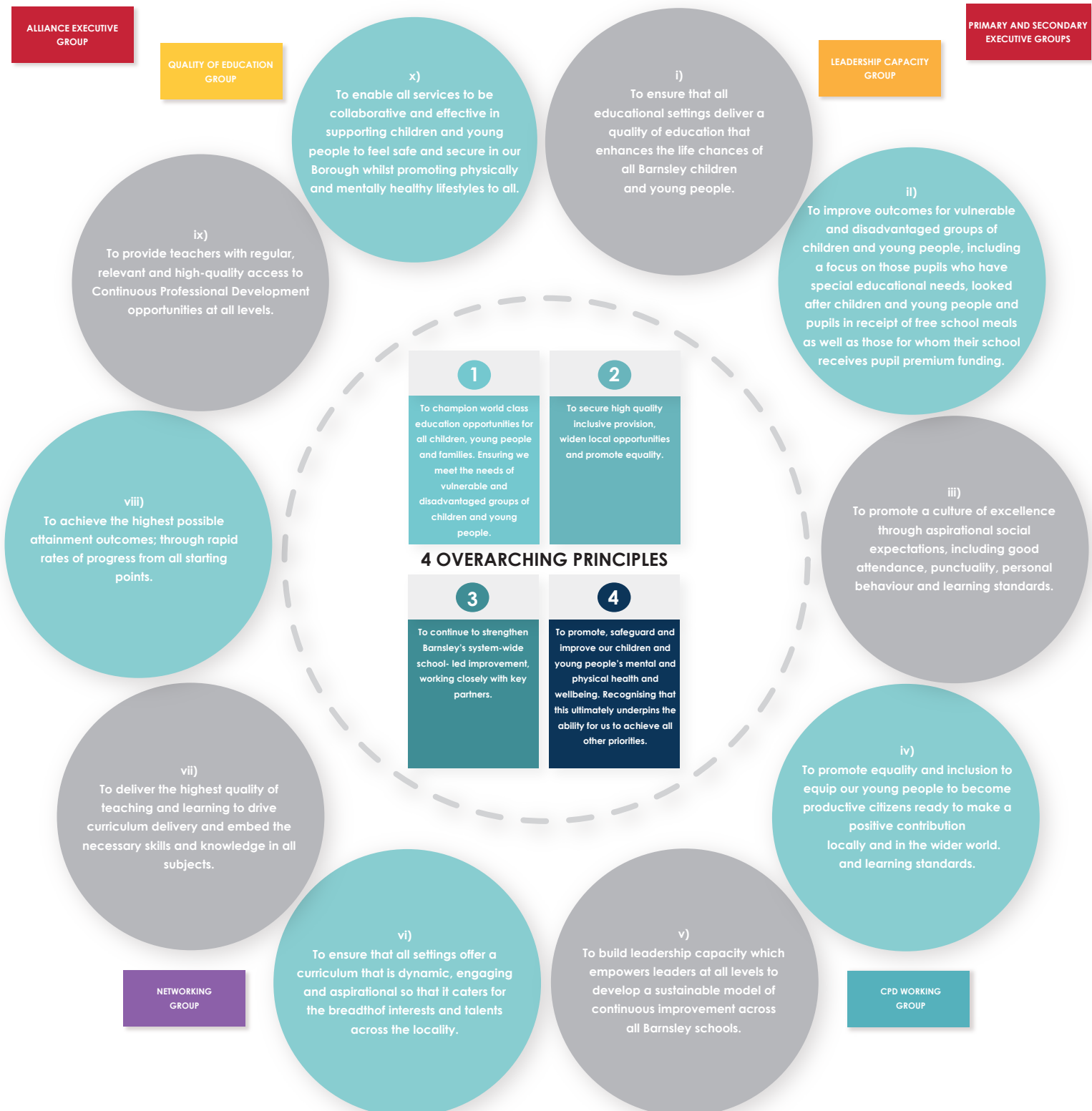


BARNSLEY SCHOOLS' ALLIANCE

STRONGER TOGETHER TO IMPROVE EDUCATION

Support • Challenge • Inspire

BARNSLEY SCHOOLS' ALLIANCE EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT STRATEGY PLAN



This page is intentionally left blank



Meeting:	Safeguarding Private Member Briefing
Date of meeting:	10 th January 2023
Report Title:	Children's Social Care Monthly Report – October 2022
Author:	Susan Barrell, Senior Performance and Intelligence Officer

1. Background

Members of the Committee will be aware that the Children's Services directorate produces a monthly children's social care performance report, which contains an overview of the major performance indicators across all service areas within children's safeguarding and social care.

The October 2022 edition of the report is attached. It includes a summary section with an overview of performance, using RAG (Red, Amber, Green) ratings and direction of travel for most indicators. Barnsley's historical performance and comparisons with other local authorities are also included.

More detailed information against most indicators can be found in the main body of the report, where members will find graphs, tables, and a management performance analysis at the top of each page, which highlights areas of performance considered good and areas where improvement is required.

2. Summary

Below is a summary of key performance issues highlighted in the October 2022 report:

Early Help Assessments

Data relating to the volumes of EHA's completed is reliant on partner organisations notifying the Local Authority that they have completed an EHA, therefore performance is dependent upon all agencies following the process within the timescales. Latest available data shows that 108 EHAs had been completed in October and 72 interventions closed, with 3,721 active cases at the end of October. The number of active cases has increased each month since January 2022, and the October 2022 figure is 15.8% higher than the same time last year.

Contacts

The number of contacts increased in October to 1480 from 1148 in September. The number of case events/consultations decreased from 106 in September to 2 in October. The spike in the number of contacts, and dip in the number of case events/consultations reflects a change in procedure; from 12/09/2022 the decision was made to streamline the response to enquiries to the Integrated Front Door. Enquiries are no longer recorded as consultations, they are now recorded as contact records. The proportion of contacts progressing to referral reduced from 22.8% in September to 19.1% in October, significantly below the 12 month average of 63.9%.

Referrals

The number of referrals increased from 221 in September to 303 in October, above the rolling 12 month average of 223 referrals per month. The percentage of referrals progressed decreased from 97.3% in September to 96.4% in October. The percentage of re-referrals in the last 12 months has decreased from 22.2% in September to 20.1% in October. The year to date performance of 20.7% remains above target (18.5%), but below the 2020/21 statistical neighbour and national averages of 24.4% and 22.7% respectively.

Assessments

The number of assessments commencing increased from 282 in September to 320 in October. This is above the 12 month average of 262 per month and higher than the October 2021 figure of 264. The current

year to date rate of assessments, at 601.7 per 10,000 u18s, remains well below the 2020/21 statistical neighbour benchmark (891.4) but above the national benchmark (517.6).

The percentage of assessments completed within 45 working days showed a further reduction from 96.6% in September to 95.8% in October. YTD performance of 98.4% remains well above our 2020/21 statistical neighbour average (84.6%) and the national average (87.6%), including our own target of 95%. Performance for the percentage of assessments undertaken within 20 working days increased from 32.1% in September to 44.9% in October. YTD performance of 29.2% remains below the target of 35%.

The proportion of assessments ending in 'No Further Action' decreased from 52.4% in September to 47.3% in October but remains higher than the YTD figure of 38.9%. The YTD percentage remains higher than the target of 30%, and above the 21/22 outturn of 34.6%.

Section 47 Investigations

The number of S47 investigations commencing increased from 117 in September to 131 in October. This was higher than the October 2021 figure of 83, and above the monthly average for the year which is 98. When expressed as a rate per 10,000 population, the year to date figure of 227.6 is now above our outturn for 2021/22 (219.6). Performance is higher than the 2020/21 national benchmark (164.4) but below our Statistical Neighbours' average (259.4).

The proportion of S47s proceeding to conference increased from 17.9% in September to 31.7% for those authorised in October. The year-to-date performance of 23.5% is notably below the target of 36.5%, below the 2020/21 national (36.5%) and statistical neighbour (39.2%) averages.

The percentage of S47s ending with no further action (NFA) decreased from 51.6% in September to 41.3% in October.

Child Protection (CP)

The number of children with a CP plan decreased from 258 at the end of September to 254 at the end of October. Barnsley's rate of CPP is 49.2 per 10,000 compared to national rate of 41.4 per 10,000 and the statistical neighbour rate of 67.4 per 10,000

For timeliness of initial child protection conferences (ICPC), the proportion of investigations proceeding to conference within timescale in October was maintained at 100% Year to date performance of 96.7% is above target (88%), above the 2020/21 statistical neighbour (82.9%) and national averages (83%).

■ CYP became the subject of a child protection (CP) plan for a second or subsequent time in October, decreasing from ■ in September. Year to date performance (15.9%) is below the 18% target, the 2020/21 statistical neighbour average (22.3%) and national average (22.1%).

The number of children on a CP plan for more than two years increased from ■ at the end of September, to ■ at the end of October. The current rate of 1.2% is below national (2.0%) and Statistical Neighbour (1.9%) benchmarks for 2020/21.

There was ■ plan lasting two years or more that ceased in October. Year to date performance for this measure is at 7.9% and is above the 3.0% target, the national (2.9%) and Statistical Neighbour (3.7%) benchmarks.

Performance for the timeliness of child protection reviews remained at 100% in October with performance remaining at 100% for more than two years. The percentage of child protection visits occurring within



timescale (four weeks) decreased from 94.4% in September to 92.1% in October. CP visit performance for the year to date is 96.7%.

Care Proceedings

The number of open proceedings decreased from 110 in September to 107 at the end of October. There were 1 new cases in October, and 8 cases which concluded. The average length of open proceedings cases increased from 33.6 weeks in September to 34.9 weeks in October. The 12 month rolling average duration for concluding cases increased from 49.6 weeks in September to 52.2 weeks in October.

Looked After Children (LAC)

The number of children in care is closely monitored. There is no definitive best practice performance; it is important to be confident that the right children are looked after at the right time. The number of looked after children has shown an increase for the fifth successive month from 354 in May to 385 at the end of October. That said, Barnsley's latest rate of LAC of 74.6 per 10,000 remains well below our statistical neighbours' average rate of 112 per 10,000, but above the national average of 67.0 per 10,000 for 2020/21.

Performance relating to children with three or more placements (in the previous 12 months) increased from 9.6% in September to 10.5% in October. Performance remains above the target of 9.5%, statistical neighbour figure of 8.3% and national benchmark of 9%.

The proportion of looked after children in the same placements for 2.5yrs+ reduced from 69.5% in September to 65.0% in October, and is now below the 20/21 statistical neighbour average of 68.3%, and below the national average of 70%.

The number of reported missing from care incidents showed an increase from 31 in September to 32 in October, this figure is above the rolling 12 month average of 22. The number of CYP missing from care remains at 11.

The percentage of LAC cases reviewed within timescale reduced from 95.5% in September to 92.9% in October. The year to date average at the end of October was 96.4%, below the 98.3% reported for Barnsley in 2021/22 and the target of 97%. Performance for LAC visits within timescale decreased from 91.4% in September to 87.4% in October, with a year to date performance of 95.2%. This is below the target of 100%. It should be noted that this is measured using a locally set definition (i.e. six-weekly) to support relationship-based practice and robust corporate parenting.

The proportion of looked after children with a completed Health Needs Assessment in the last year increased from 91.9% in September to 92.0% in October, but remains below the target of 96%. The performance of dental checks has reduced further from 72.0% in September to 68.9% in October, and remains well below the target of 94%.

The percentage of looked after children (aged 4-16yrs inclusive) recorded as having a completed Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire decreased from 71.9% in September to 67.4% in October, which is now below the Barnsley 2021/22 outturn of 71.6%, our Statistical Neighbour and the national average of 82.2% and 80% respectively, as well as below the target of 80%.

The information on PEPs is gathered from a Looked After Child's record, within the authorised care plan. October data shows that 90.9% of children/young people hold a valid PEP, reducing from 94.9% in September. TPEP performance is 97.2% in October, which is below the October 2021 figure of 99.0%.



Quality of Schools Attended by Looked after Children

This measure focuses on Ofsted inspection ratings for schools where Children in Care are placed. October performance showed 81.8% of CIC are attending Good or Outstanding Schools, which is higher than the September figure of 79.4%. At the end of October 15.7% of Children in Care were in schools judged to be less than Good, 2.5% were in schools with no current inspection outcome

School Attendance and Absence of Looked after Children

For Primary aged Children in Care, attendance at the end of October was 96.5%, which is comparable with figures throughout the previous academic year. Persistent absenteeism at the end of October remains at 10.3%, which is lower than the October 2021 figure of 12.7%. 0.9% of primary aged Children in Care received fixed term exclusions up to the end of October.

For Secondary aged Children in Care, attendance at the end of October was 91.2%, which is consistent with attendance throughout the previous academic year. Persistent absenteeism at the end of October was 24.0%, an increase on the September figure of 23.0%, but lower than the October 2021 figure of 26.9%. 8.8% of Secondary aged Children in Care received fixed term exclusions up to the end of October.

Adoption

With the exception of 2013/14, Barnsley's adoption performance over the last decade has remained well above statistical neighbours, regional and national benchmarks. However, current year to date performance for adoptions at the end of October is 13.2% of children and young people leaving care, which is slightly below our internal target of 16.5%.

In relation to the timeliness of our adoption processes, against the target of 121 days between a placement order and a child being matched, timescales increased from 75.2 days in September to 109.9 days in October. Performance for average time taken between Placement Order and child being placed with adopter(s) was 4.0 months in October, remaining unchanged from the previous month.

Care leavers

Care Leaver performance is measured 'cumulatively', using information recorded around birthdays, relevant to those care-experienced young people who have a birthday within the current month. This is then added to the previous performance, recorded since April, and builds up over the year. Reporting for care leavers can fluctuate significantly due to the small numbers of young people in the cohort.

Performance for October showed that 64.7% of the cohort aged 19-21 were engaged in education, employment or training (EET), below the target of 68%. Comparatively, the data is above the 2020/21 statistical neighbour (50.1%) and national (52%) averages.

It is a requirement that Care Leavers are 'seen' via an official visit every 8 weeks (40 working days). Performance declined slightly from 98.6% in September to 91.7% in October. Year to date performance is 99.0%, above performance for 2021/22 (99.5%). In addition to this, at the end of October, 91.9% of care leavers aged 19 to 21, with birthdays between April – October, were in suitable accommodation.

Children in Need

The number of open CIN cases increased by 89; from 1484 in September to 1573 in October. The October figure is significantly lower than the same period last year by a count of 336. In terms of rates of Children in Need per 10,000 when comparing against 2020/21 benchmarks, Barnsley's rate for October (304.7) remains lower than Statistical Neighbours (440.5), and below the national average (321.2).



	<p>Caseloads</p> <p>In October, caseloads in the Integrated Front Door's assessment and Safeguarding teams reduced by approximately 0.1 cases per worker on average to 20.1 cases. Caseloads in Children in Care/Future Directions teams decreased to 19.8 cases on average, caseloads in the Disabled Children's Team's decreased to 23.8 cases on average, caseloads in Adoption / Fostering teams reduced to 18.0 cases on average at the end of October.</p>
	<p>Recommendations</p> <p>The Committee is asked to review the attached report in a private session and challenge performance. Any areas for investigation or improvement can be agreed for formal detailed discussion at a future meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.</p>
4.	Attachments/background papers
5.	<p>Possible Areas for investigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the ambitions for children in care and what are the priorities for the next 12 months? How will they be achieved? • Is there an escalation of need in the community? If so, what needs to be done to support families and young people whilst at the same time ensuring that the service continues to be resilient? • What is being done to ensure quality of provision? • What assurances can you provide that work is being done in response to the recent Ofsted judgement on a council run care home? When do you expect to see improvements? • What are the outcomes of children in residential care compared to the rest of your looked after children? • How confident are you that you are keeping children safe from harm? • What information sharing agreements are in place with other agencies to ensure that information is used holistically to prevent a child in need from falling through the gaps? • Do you have a system for seeking feedback from LAC and care leavers about the services they receive? How is this information used? • What do LAC say about their placements? What would you do if a child complained about their placement? • How do Independent Reviewing Officer's add value to the service? What do you do with the information they provide? Can you give examples? • How many children are placed out of area? Is this cost effective? Where are the gaps in provision that prevent these children being placed locally? • What access do LAC get to services to help with mental health, substance misuse, sexual health and teenage pregnancy to ensure a healthy lifestyle and improved outcomes? • If children have to move placement, what arrangements are made to keep them at the same school? • Are you satisfied that children are supported to maintain relationships with people that are significant to them? • What is the profile of children waiting for a permanent placement and what are the barriers to finding them a home? • What do foster carers say about the support they receive, including out of hours support, and about their relationships with social workers and professionals? • When sharing Child Protection Reports with parents and families, how do you ensure that they fully understand the content and the implications of the report? • What can elected members do to support the work of children's social care?

This page is intentionally left blank

By virtue of paragraph(s) 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank

By virtue of paragraph(s) 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank

By virtue of paragraph(s) 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank