

## Midlothian Council Kinship Care Service Plan – April 2016 to March 2017

### 1. Effective Communication

Outcome	Action	Measures	Timescale	Who
<p><b>All partners involved in the provision of Kinship services will be able to access relevant information in a range of different formats</b></p>	<p>There is up to date information about kinship care on the Midlothian Council website</p>	<p>Use of google analytics to measure traffic</p>	<p>Part of development of new Midlothian website, initial meeting to discuss 26/09/16</p>	<p>Team Leader Kinship and relevant web development staff in Council</p>
	<p>Organise a consultation event with a group of young people in kinship care to develop child specific information explaining what kinship care is and find out what has worked in terms of service provision</p>	<p>Event takes place and informs next steps for service development</p>	<p>Beginning 2017</p>	<p>Kinship strategy group members, children in kinship care, youth workers</p>
	<p>Work with existing groups to produce a pack for new kinship carers about Midlothian specific services and provide this along with new Mentor Guide for Kinship Carers. To include transition information from child to</p>	<p>Pack is produced and is given to new kinship carers.</p>	<p>End September 2017 for Midlothian specific information, October 2017 for full pack (timescale for Mentor information)</p>	<p>Representatives from different kinship groups, Team Leader Kinship</p>

	<p>adult services</p> <p>Social Workers are familiar with the content of kinship packs and with internal agency procedures.</p> <p>Produce a kinship newsletter twice a year with information, news and upcoming events</p>	<p>Kinship carers report receiving accurate up to date information from children's social workers</p> <p>Newsletter is produced and disseminated</p>	<p>November 2017- attend children services meeting</p> <p>December and June</p>	<p>TL Kinship</p> <p>TL Kinship with contributions from strategy group members and other relevant partners</p>
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## 2. Providing Support to Kinship Carers and the Children and Young People they Care for

Outcome	Action	Measures	Timescale	Who
<p><b>Children who are in kinship care can access support and their carers have access to appropriate information, support and training that will enable them to care for them.</b></p>	<p>Provide a programme of training and development based on what kinship carers tell us will help.</p>	<p>Annual programme of training is developed and disseminated</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Midlothian Council and partner agencies</p>
	<p>Provide support for children, both direct and through working with their carers</p>	<p>A sample of child plans for children in kinship care demonstrates that they are SHANARRI</p>	<p>Measure twice a year- September and March</p>	<p>TL Kinship</p>

		Participation event informs services for children and young people		
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### 3. Service Provision

Outcome	Action	Measures	Timescale	Who
<b>Strategic planning for the provision of kinship care services will include all stakeholders working together in partnership.</b>	Develop a kinship strategy group to include kinship carers and local agency representatives to develop and review service planning for kinship carers	Strategy group is formed and meets a minimum of three times a year	June 2017	Representatives from local authority, individual kinship carers and service providers
	Kinship participation events are held once a year	Events take place	April 2017	Organised by social work and content agreed at strategy group
	Inform kinship carers of feedback received and actions we have taken as a result	Following participation events complete a 'what you said and what we did' report	May 2017	TL Kinship
	Young People in kinship care are invited to participate in the Champions Board	Young people in kinship care will be invited to be part of the Champions Board following the consultation event	March 2017 (following participation event)	Midlothian Champions Board

#### 4. Measuring Performance

Outcome	Action	Measures	Timescale	Who
<p><b>Midlothian Council provide high quality kinship support services within a culture of continuous improvement</b></p>	<p>Develop a kinship service plan in partnership with carers and partner agencies</p> <p>Incorporate key performance indicators to the plan to measure outcomes</p> <p>Twice yearly governance meetings with the Head of Children Services</p> <p>Plan is consistent with the Midlothian Corporate Parenting Strategy and Plan</p>	<p>Plan is developed and timescales are adhered to</p> <p>Plan includes measures for performance</p> <p>Meetings take place and plan is signed off by Head of Service</p> <p>Governance by Head of service</p>	<p>First draft June 2016</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>TL Kinship</p> <p>Signed off by Head of Service</p> <p>Head of Children's Services</p> <p>Head of Children's Services</p>

**Sue Brunton**

**Team Leader, Kinship**

**20 September 2016**

**Updated**

**01/09/16**