

Moray Single Outcome Agreement - National outcome 8.

We have improved the life chances for children, young people and families at risk.

Local Context

Child protection

Children referred to the Children's Reporter on offence grounds as a percentage of the child population in Moray has increased by 0.3% to 3.4% in 2006-7, equalling the Scottish average. There were 3.8 per 1,000 population of child protection case conferences which is lower than the nationally average of 4.3. The percentage of offence referrals attributed to persistent young offenders in Moray in 2006-7 was 44% above the Scottish average of 32.5%. The percentage of reports submitted by the Council within 20 working days of the date of the request from the Reporter in 2006-7 was 57%, above the Scottish average of 34%.

Attendance and exclusions are at acceptable levels and perform well in comparison with other authorities. The high rate of Primary school attendance was maintained at 96% from 2004/05 to 2006/07, remaining above the national figure of 95% throughout. The rate of secondary school attendance fell from 2004/05 to 2006/07, from 92% to 91%. This equals the national figure which has increase by 1% since 2004/05. The rate of exclusions in Moray is below the national average in primary and secondary education, with 12 exclusions per 1,000 pupils in primary, against a Scottish figure of 16 per 1,000 pupils and 69 exclusions per 1,000 pupils in secondary, against a Scottish average of 120 per 1,000 pupils.

Looked After Children

The number of looked after children in Moray was less than the national average. This represented 9.5 per 1,000 population under 18 compared to the Scottish figure of 11.6. Of these 89% were in a community setting and 11% in residential care, a balance which was in line with the national average. However in March 2007 there were 193 looked after children representing 1% of the population of which 87% were in a community setting and 13% were looked after in a residential setting. Nationally between 2006-7 there was a 9% decrease in children looked after in a community setting compared to Moray which had a 1% increase. Also during this time there was a 1% increase in children looked after in a residential setting and a 16% decrease in Moray.

44% of care leavers in 2005-6 obtained at least one qualification at SCQF level 3 or above compared to the national average of 50%. In 2005-6 Moray's decreasing attainment results for looked after children opposed to the national increasing trend, however significant improvements have been made in 2006-7 and attainment levels are substantially above national trends with 76% care leavers gaining at least 1 SCQF level 3 or above qualification.

Of the 18 care leavers in 2005-6 17% had a pathway plan and 6% had a pathway plan co-ordinator. This compared with figures of 52% and 60% nationally. Much more positively all of these care leavers were still in contact with social work services, compared with 85% nationally. Also 42% of care leavers in Moray known to be economically active were in employment, education or training compared to 27% nationally.

Local Outcomes	Relevant Indicators	Frequency / Type / Source	Baseline (2006/07)	Local Targets & Timescales	
Children will be protected from abuse and harm	Number of children on the child protection register Duration on register	NESPC Annual Report 2006/07	90 on register 55 de-registered (Time on register: Under 6 mths = 3 6mths – 1yr = 20 1yr – 2yrs = 26 2yrs+ = 6)	The number of children on the child protection register will reduce	
The life chances of looked after children will improve	% of looked after children attaining Maths and English at SCQF level 3 or above	Scottish Government Statistics – Health and Care Series: Children Looked After Statistics 2006–07	Moray 46% (those looked after at home 50%, those looked after away from home 44%) (34% National, 39% Comparator Average)	The attainment of looked after children will increase	
	% of young people leaving care in the More Choices, More Chances	Scottish Government Statistics – Destination of Leavers from Scottish Schools 2006/07	In Moray, there were 1,072 school leavers in 2006/07, of those 2% were unemployed and not seeking employment or training (1% national)	The percentage of young people leaving care and entering further education, employment or training will increase.	
Looked after children figures		Quarterly reported to committee Activity Analysis	Children receiving a service away from home 82.5% at home 17.5% away from home	The number of children being looked after at home will increase	
Required Actions/commitment by local partners for these outcomes	Project		Objectives/Comment – 08/09	Lead	Year
Children will be protected from abuse and harm	Develop local individual packages of care and education to reduce the number of out of area placements Develop co-located Police & Social Work Child Protection Unit	Service Improvement Plan priority		TMC	08/11
Scottish Government required action/commitment to support delivery of local outcome		Agreed and detailed brief being developed		TMC GP NHSG	08/09