

CHILDREN'S SERVICES PLEDGES, AUGUST 2019

Performance and Risk Team



CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES PLEDGES

Pledge	Portfolio Holder	Lead Director	Status – End State
<p>Pledge 41 - We will continue to reduce the use of institutional placements for children and adults with complicated needs or challenging behaviour. We will support more people to remain living in their own communities, close to their friends and family, to enjoy their rights as full citizens.</p>	Jemima Laing	Jean Kelly	<p>In Progress: Reduction in the proportion of children in institutional placements.</p> <p>We regularly monitor all care plans and review residential placements for step down opportunities. We are looking at ways to grow family placements (e.g. foster carers and special guardians)</p>
<p>Pledge 47 - Every Plymouth child deserves a safe and loving home. That is why we will promote fostering and adoption in Plymouth with a renewed public campaign.</p>	Jemima Laing	Jean Kelly	<p>Completed: A campaign to promote fostering and adoption in Plymouth.</p> <p>This is being supported via an updated Recruitment and Marketing Strategy as well as initiatives such as 'Fostering Friendly Plymouth'.</p>
<p>Pledge 48 - We will look to provide support for care leavers up to the age of 25, ensuring that the City Council plays its part in supporting young people leaving care, including guaranteeing a work placement with the City Council to help them start their working lives.</p>	Jemima Laing	Jean Kelly	<p>In Progress: Create a number of work experience placements within Plymouth City Council for young people leaving care.</p> <p>This work has been developed further and we now have a list of 102 14-17 year olds who have expressed clear aspirations. We will be sharing this list with corporate and cabinet colleagues in early September to explore what work experiences can be identified to support these in year. We are currently working in partnership with Barnardo's as part of our 'Care Journey's' programme to develop a business as usual approach to identifying and</p>

		supporting young people in care with their aspirations.
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EDUCATION, PARTICIPATION AND SKILLS PLEDGES

Pledge	Portfolio Holder	Lead Director	Status – End State
Pledge 7 - We set up Building Plymouth to encourage jobs in the construction industry. We will continue to support its work and will be encouraging opportunities for older workers, whether they are looking for a change of job or are out of work. We will sign up to Unite the Union's Construction Charter.	Jon Taylor	Judith Harwood	Completed: Development of a strategic plan which continues to support current activities within the delivery plan. Sign up to Unite the Union's Construction Charter and commit to actions.
Pledge 40 - Parents tell us of their unhappiness as school standards continue to drop. Plymouth has embraced free schools, academies and UTCs, but despite getting a good start from primary schools, we are not producing the high qualifications needed for our children to get on in the modern world. Although the Government has removed the powers Councils had to intervene, we will find ways of encouraging schools to raise standards across the city - particularly in secondary schools.	Jon Taylor	Judith Harwood	In Progress: Evidenced impact of our interventions through the Plymouth Education Board, The Plymouth Challenge, Multi Academy Trust CEO Forum and Maintained Schools Forum. Increase in the percentage of children attending schools that are good or outstanding (Ofsted ratings).
Pledge 42 - We think the current system of fining parents for taking their children on holiday in term time can hurt families on a budget. We will work with schools and parents to introduce a fair system so families can take an annual holiday without penalty. PRIORITY PLEDGE (TOP 5)	Jon Taylor	Judith Harwood	In Progress: Following consultation on options we will design a system that enables families to take a holiday without falling foul of legal implications.
Pledge 43 - Plymouth needs more engineers, mathematicians and scientists. We have world-class STEM employers. The city council will look to work with the Plymouth Manufacturers Group and Women in STEM to increase the number of young people taking STEM subjects at school, college and university. We will work with major manufacturers and large businesses to give school children an insight into how factories, manufacturing, digital and creative industries, STEM roles and other major Plymouth employers work. We will also support people to improve their STEM skills throughout their career.	Jon Taylor	Judith Harwood	Completed pending formal sign off by Cabinet (17 September): A pledge on a page has been submitted to cabinet. Through the STEM plan, support will be provided for teachers through STEM subject learning hubs and networks linked into national strategies, pilots and regional industrial requirements mapped to the curriculum.
Pledge 44 - Plymouth has an international reputation for marine science and technology. We need more children and parents to seize these opportunities and so we will offer schools the chance to showcase the best of Plymouth's commercial and research experience in the classroom.	Jon Taylor	Judith Harwood	Completed: Delivery through the STEM Plan and Mayflower 400 Planned activities.

<p>Pledge 45 - A growing number of children in Plymouth are caring for a family member. We will appoint a Young Carers' Champion to be their voice in the city and we will hold a conference to showcase the fantastic work being done in some of our city's schools to support young carers and develop good practice for schools across the city.</p>	Jon Taylor	Judith Harwood	<p>Completed: Appointment of a Young Carers' Champion and delivery of a Young Carers Conference.</p>
<p>Pledge 49 - We welcome Devon and Cornwall Police's commitment to Operation Encompass and we will encourage Plymouth's schools to play their full and active part to keep children safe.</p>	Jon Taylor	Judith Harwood	<p>Completed: Continued promotion and support publically for programme.</p>