



**Easy Read Version
of
Neath Port Talbot Council's
Children's Services Strategic
Plan 2023-2026**



What is the Strategic Plan about?



The Strategic Plan describes how Neath Port Talbot Council will help vulnerable children and young people with care and support needs.



The Strategic Plan tells us how the Council will make sure children, young people and families get the right type of care and support to meet their needs.

This will include information and advice, access to community support, or a safe place to live such as foster care.



This Strategic Plan will apply to children, young people and families who already receive support as well as those who may need support in the future.

What does Neath Port Talbot Council want out of the Strategic Plan?

We want to make sure that children, young people and families in Neath Port Talbot have the right amount of help to meet their needs, and that children and young people have the best start in life.

The Strategic Plan is set out along three broad themes:

1. Placement sufficiency

We believe that the best place for a child is with a loving family. We will work with families to help them stay together, but we also know that there is a need for foster placements to provide safe and stable environments for some. It's about getting the right service at the right time.

2. Recruit, retain and develop a highly skilled workforce

When social workers have the tools and time to do their job well, it makes a huge difference to children's and families' lives. We want a valued, supported and highly-skilled social worker for every child and family who needs one.

3. Demand and complexity

For the majority of children, the best place for them to be is at home with their family, but some families may need support to do this. We provide specific and targeted support to families who are facing particular challenges resulting from social harms, poverty and inequality, domestic abuse, substance misuse, mental health conditions, as well as learning disabilities.

Our Aim

The Council wants to help its vulnerable children and young people and make sure those who need support get it.

Our goal is to ensure that children and young people in Neath Port Talbot are safe, and living in families where they can achieve their potential and have their health, well-being and life chances improved within thriving communities.

We want to get it right for our citizens - from childhood to adulthood.

Who will be affected by this Strategic Plan?

Children, young people and families living in Neath Port Talbot who would benefit from formal or informal social care and support.

This means that children and young people currently receiving support and those who might need support in the future will be affected by this Strategic Plan.