Introduction

Support from the Start is a network of people and organisations who are working for the ‘Best Possible Start for All Children in East Lothian. The network uses local knowledge and the information in this profile to work towards the following outcomes for children:-

- Have positive parenting & experience good attachments at an early stage
- Are ready to learn and achieve
- Can access quality child care experiences
- Are healthy & happy
- Are not living in poverty
- Have a good opportunity for play
- Are protected from harm

The Tranent Area Support from the Start group was launched in March 2012. Its ‘core group’ has met on a regular basis since then led by Lena Hutton who works for East Lothian Council as a Community Development Officer.

The groups key achievement so far include:-

- Began to develop a ‘parent pathway’ for Tranent to support parents to access information and support
- Supporting the Raising Children with Confidence course for Tranent parents
- Supporting play developments in the villages
- Work with the National Childbirth Trust to offer support to new parents through an ‘Early Days’ course.
- Worked with ‘Tiny Talk’ to offer baby signing to parent in Tranent
- Supported the development of Baby Massage for Tranent parent
- Organised a ‘Getting Ready for school’ event in Elphinstone as a pilot for future events.
- Lobbied for greater early years play space particularly in the town of Tranent

Tranent Cluster Area Overview

Tranent is situated towards the west of East Lothian lying between Haddington and Musselburgh on the south side of the main A1 road. The history of Tranent is based around local farming and coal-mining as the town coat of arms reflects but in this 21st century its residents

http://www.visiteastlothian.org/gallery.asp
work in many different professions throughout East Lothian and in the capital Edinburgh. The Cluster area includes the settlements of Tranent, Ormiston, Elphinstone, Macmerry, Saltoun and Pencaitland and has one secondary school and eight primary schools, most with attached nursery classes.

**Population**

Tranent Cluster has a population of 18,689 (based on Fa'side Ward boundaries).¹ This represents some 19% of the population of East Lothian as a whole.

Across East Lothian the population is growing, with a growth rate of 7% since 2001. In the Tranent cluster area the increase since 2001 has been more than 10% as a result of new homes and net migration in the area.² The local population is expected to continue to grow over the next few years. This is illustrated in the projected school roll figures for the whole of East Lothian illustrated below (Fig. 1) and in the population projections for East Lothian as a whole which predict that the East Lothian population will increase from the current 2010 estimate of 97,500 to 130,000 by 2035.³

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4. East Lothian Council Education Department
Table 1 - Population age composition

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Tranent</th>
<th>West Elphinstone</th>
<th>East Elphinstone &amp; Ormiston</th>
<th>East Lothian</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>% of population children &amp; young people (0-15)</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of population of working age (16-64)</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of population of pensionable age (65+)</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Health

Health varies considerably across the cluster area. There are far fewer women who breastfeed in Tranent itself than elsewhere (although no figure is available for Tranent NE) and there are more women smoking in pregnancy in Tranent NE than elsewhere. The picture for child dental health shows a broadly similar pattern with fewer children in Tranent NE with no evidence of decay in P1 than elsewhere in the cluster or in East Lothian as a whole (Fig 2).

Figure 2 - Breastfeeding, maternal smoking in pregnancy and child dental health

Figure 2 - Breastfeeding, maternal smoking in pregnancy and child dental health

Education

In primary one the standard assessment used to measure the abilities of new pupils in reading, writing and arithmetic show a steady improvement in all areas in recent years (Fig. 3).

5 East Lothian Health & Wellbeing Profile 2010, Scottish Public Health Observatory - www.scotpho.org.uk
6 East Lothian Health & Wellbeing Profile 2010 (Scottish Public Health Observatory)
Across all socioeconomic status groups, East Lothian 5 yr olds: do quite well in physical health and well-being and cognitive/language development domains; score average in social competency; and score less well in emotional maturity and communications and general knowledge domains.

Within the Tranent cluster the overall range of scores of children was very similar to East Lothian as a whole (Fig 4) and compared quite well with all of the other cluster areas (Appendix 1). Tranent has an almost identical pattern of scores to East Lothian as a whole but scores higher in all domains. It has the second lowest percentage of children in East Lothian scoring low on at least one domain (Appendix 2).

**Figure 3 - Average standardised PIPS scores at P1 baseline assessment**

**Figure 4 - EDI mean scores for domains in Tranent cluster and East Lothian**
Children & Young People
Given its population the Tranent area has considerably higher than expected numbers of looked after pupils (at home) and pupils with disability. The other figures in the table below are only a little higher relative to the cluster’s share of the school age population that the figures might suggest (Table 2).

Table 2 - Children and Young People Facts & Figures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Tranent</th>
<th>East Lothian</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Pupils *</td>
<td>2,547</td>
<td>13,301</td>
<td>19.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Looked After Pupils (at home) *</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>47.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Looked After Pupils (away from home) *</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>21.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pupils with ASN *</td>
<td>496</td>
<td>2,368</td>
<td>20.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disabled Pupils *</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>197</td>
<td>33.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free School Meal Registration *</td>
<td>336</td>
<td>1,496</td>
<td>22.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* From Primary and Secondary School Pupil Census 2011

Amenities
Tranent and its environs has a range of services and resources available to its residents which are highlighted on the map in Appendix 3.

There is also considerable amenity and green space available in and around Tranent itself although much of the available green space in the town is taken up by private gardens (see Appendix 4). Green spaces are the lungs of towns and cities and can contribute greatly to improving people’s physical and mental health by providing places for informal recreation - walking, cycling, sitting, socialising and children’s play - and breathing spaces to take time out from the stresses of modern life. They bring the countryside into urban areas and make it more accessible.

Summary
Tranent Cluster covers the communities of Tranent,Ormiston, Elphinstone, Macmerry, Saltoun and Pencaitland. This short profile indicates that population health and wellbeing is generally positive although there are localised areas of concern where health and other statistics are less positive and of more concern. This is most marked in areas of Tranent for breastfeeding and smoking in pregnancy as well as tooth decay in young children.

Educationally young people in Tranent are well served although there remain challenges in making sure all children get the best out of education. The average PIP scores for children in P1 have been steadily increasing in recent years. It has the second lowest percentage of children in East Lothian scoring low in the EDI on at least one domain. There are however large numbers of looked after children and more children with disabilities than might be expected given the population of the area.

The area is generally reasonably served for amenities and green space although there are likely to be access issues to some services and amenities for some of the smaller communities outwith Tranent.

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9 East Lothian Council Education Department
Appendix 1 - EDI mean scores for domains in cluster areas across East Lothian

PRESTONPANS

TRANENT

DUNBAR

HADDINGTON

MUSSELBURGH

NORTH BERWICK
Appendix 2 – Percentage of children in East Lothian scoring low on at least one domain by cluster area, January 2012

Percentage of children who score low on one or more domains of development by cluster area

Legend:
- North Berwick Cluster
- Tranent Cluster
- Haddington Cluster
- Dunbar Cluster
- Prestonpans Cluster
- Musselburgh Cluster

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Appendix 3 – Amenities and service in the Tranent Cluster Area

All schools have access to educational psychology and school nursing services

11 This map was taken from the Open Space Strategy Consultation pages East Lothian Council’s website (http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/downloads/file/5143/strategic_green_network-tranent_cluster)