

11 November 2013**Agenda Item: 4****REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND
CULTURAL SERVICES****PERFORMANCE REPORTING (2013/14 QUARTER 2) – SERVICES FOR
CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE****Purpose of the Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to provide the Committee with a summary of the performance of the Council's services for children and young people between 1 July and 30 September 2013.

Information and Advice**Performance Reporting for 2013/14**

2. This report forms the second quarterly performance report for 2013/14, reporting on performance during 2013/14 Quarter 2 (1 April to 30 June 2013).
3. At its meeting on 16 July 2012, the Committee agreed to receive a report each quarter, reviewing performance across the full range of services provided to children and young people. Quarterly reports would be in addition to other reports that might be presented to the Committee from time to time, providing detailed performance-related information about specific initiatives, projects or services.
4. As agreed at this meeting, quantitative performance reporting to the Committee is measured via key performance indicators (KPIs), which cover the full range of services to children and young people. Although it has been agreed that performance will be reported on a quarterly basis, not all of these KPIs are equally sensitive to quarterly fluctuation. In accepting that KPIs will not always change from one quarter to the next, it was agreed that the most up-to-date information would be provided for each KPI.
5. The KPIs that are reported on within this report are the same as those reported on for 2013/14 Quarter 1, except that in addition to reporting the number of young people who are not in education, employment or training (NEET) the number of those whose destination are unknown is included.
6. Performance data is set out in the table at **Appendix 1**. For each KPI, current performance is compared to the national average, for England, and that of the Council's children's services statistical neighbours, where this data is available. The statistical neighbour local authorities are:

- Cumbria
- Derbyshire
- Dudley
- Kent
- Lancashire
- Lincolnshire
- Northamptonshire
- Nottinghamshire
- Staffordshire
- Swindon
- Wigan

7. In addition, for each KPI, the table indicates whether performance has improved (+), declined (-), or remained the same (=) over the current reporting period.

Key messages

Children's Social Care

8. Between Quarters 1 and 2, the timeliness of initial and core assessments by Children's Social Care has increased, following a recent reduction. 72.7% of initial assessments were carried out within timescales in Quarter 2, compared with 64.0% in Quarter 1. 86.3% of core assessments were carried out within timescales, compared with 80.1% in Quarter 1. The introduction of the Multi-agency Assessment Hub (MASH) has resulted in increased numbers of referrals to children's social workers for assessment, many of which resulted in no further action after assessment. This has impacted particularly on the number of initial assessments being undertaken, putting pressure on social workers. Between February and August, the number of MASH enquiries received was around 250 a month more than in the same months in 2012. In order to address this issue, Children's Social Care operations in the MASH have been redesigned to bring social workers closer to initial call handling, so an appropriate assessment of the information presented can be made by a qualified social worker. It is anticipated that this will reduce inappropriate referrals on to Children's Social Care, with callers being signposted to other services if the threshold for intervention is not met. These changes were introduced in September and it is expected that this will reduce the number of inappropriate referrals for assessment within the next few months, reducing pressure on social workers and enabling them to focus work on the most vulnerable.
9. In other service areas, Children's Social Care KPIs compare favourably with national average performance. 99.6% of child protection cases are reviewed within timescale (compared with 96.7% nationally) and 93.4% of looked after children cases are reviewed within timescale (compared with 90.5% nationally). The KPI measuring stability of placements for looked after children indicates that fewer children have more than three placements in Nottinghamshire than is the national average (7.5% currently compared to 11.0% nationally in 2011/12). New KPIs have recently been introduced for work with adopted children, for this business year, but as yet there is no national data available for comparison.

Educational attainment

10. The Department for Education has now released data on academic attainment, as reported in **Appendix 1**. This data remains provisional as it is still subject to a checking

process by schools; confirmed data will be available in December. The provisional data indicates that, for the 2012/13 academic year, the attainment of pupils in Nottinghamshire schools exceeds the national average at Early Years Foundation Stage, at age 11 and at age 16.

11. At Early Years Foundation Stage, average performance against the assessment framework was 56.6% in Nottinghamshire compared to 52.0% nationally. At age 11, the proportion of pupils achieving level 4 in reading, writing and mathematics was 76.6% in Nottinghamshire schools compared to 75.0% nationally. For both these age groups, the assessment method has changed since 2011/12, so it is not possible to make direct comparison with previous years' results.
12. At age 16, 62.4% of pupils in Nottinghamshire schools achieved 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent (including English & maths) compared to 58.6% of pupils nationally. This is the second consecutive year that Nottinghamshire pupils have achieved higher results than the national average. It also represents an improvement on performance in Nottinghamshire since last year (62.4% in 2012/13 compared to 60.6% in 2011/12), while nationally there was a slight decline in performance (from 59.4% in 2011/12 to 58.6% in 2012/13).
13. At A level, the performance of young people in Nottinghamshire has improved in 2012/13 compared with 2011/12. In Nottinghamshire, the percentage of A level entries at A*-E grades was 98.0% in 2012/13, compared to 97.5% in 2011/12, while the percentage of A level entries at A*-B was 45.6% in 2012/13, compared to 43.4% in 2011/12. While at A level the performance of young people in Nottinghamshire remains lower than the national average, it is improving at a greater rate than nationally.
14. The provisional data released by the Department for Education also provides information about the achievement gaps between Nottinghamshire pupils who are eligible for free school meals and their peers. At this stage, there is no information available on the average achievement gaps nationally. At age 16, the KPI used for national comparison is the attainment gap between those pupils who had been eligible for free school meals at any time in the last six years and their peers. Using this measure, provisional data indicates that in Nottinghamshire this achievement gap has widened very slightly, from 30.7% in 2011/12 to 31.2% in 2013/14. The gap between those who were eligible for free school meals in the year of assessment and their peers has narrowed from 31.8% to 31.1%. At age 11, the achievement gap at age 11 between those pupils who had been eligible for free school meals at any time in the last six years and their peers is 19.8%. It is not possible to directly compare this with the assessment results from 2011/12, due to changes in the assessment process.
15. It is anticipated that more attainment gap data, including national comparisons, will be available by December, and the December meeting of the Children and Young People's Committee will receive a report on the six month review of the Strategy for Closing the Educational Gaps in Nottinghamshire, including an analysis of outcomes.

Early Help Services

16. A number of KPIs monitor effectiveness across a range of services. These indicate that Children's Centres are reaching similar numbers of families from low income areas as last year (42%). The numbers of first time entrants to youth justice services continues to decrease, from 105 in 2012/13 Quarter 4 to 56 in 2013/14 Quarter 1 (data for this KPI is always available one quarter in arrears). The numbers of young people engaged in

positive activities by the youth service is similar to the same time last year, showing a very slight reduction from 11,271 to 11,017.

17. As part of the work associated with its Early Help Development Plan, the Children, Families and Cultural Services Department is developing an Early Help dataset, which will in future be included within the performance reporting to this Committee. It is anticipated that some data will be available for Quarter 3 (October to December) reporting. In addition, a performance indicator will be included for the Troubled Families project, reporting on the percentage of families helped.

Young people not in education, employment or training (NEET)

18. In order to provide better context for the reporting of the proportion of young people who are known to be not in education, employment or training (NEET), performance reports to the Committee now also include the proportion of young people whose destination is unknown. As shown in **Appendix 1**, although the proportion of those young people known to be NEET has reduced between June and September (from 3.5% to 2.7%), the proportion whose destination was unknown has also increased (from 5.7% to 7.6%). However, this increase in the 'unknowns' in September was expected and is in line with the annual variation in NEET seen in previous years. It is related to large numbers of young people leaving school and moving into new college places, which need to be confirmed. The number of 'unknowns' is much compared with September 2012, when the proportion was 11.5%. Since June 2013, the CFCS Department has used a dedicated tracking service, which had resulted in a reduced 'not known' figure of 4.5%, prior to the expected seasonal increase in September. This reduction in 'unknowns' was not associated with any significant increase in NEET. It is anticipated that the number of 'unknowns' will reduce significantly in November, when colleges confirm their student numbers on official returns.

Other Options Considered

19. The process for presenting performance information set out in this report is in line with corporate guidance, which has itself been established following an appropriate analysis of alternative options.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

20. The recommendation for quarterly reporting to Committee, and the KPIs that will form the basis of the report, is in line with the established processes of reporting and publishing performance information across all of the services within the Children, Families and Cultural Services department.

Statutory and Policy Implications

21. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, public sector equality duty, human resources, crime and disorder, human rights, the safeguarding of children, sustainability and the environment and those using the service and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) That the Committee notes the performance of the Council's services for children and young people during the period 1 July to 30 September 2013.

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Constitutional Comments

22. As this report is for noting only, no Constitutional Comments are required.

Financial Comments (KLA 24/10/13)

23. There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

None.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

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APPENDIX 1

Children and Young People's Committee: Performance at 2013/14 Quarter 2

For Nottinghamshire, the performance data available at the end of 2013/14 Quarter 2 (July-September) is reported. The most recent data for national average and children's services statistical neighbours is reported, where available. Please note, comparisons may be indicative only, as the reporting periods are not necessarily aligned. Where Nottinghamshire performance meets or exceeds national performance, this is highlighted by the emboldened boxes.

Key: (p) = provisional data; (+) = better than previous value; (-) = worse than previous value; (=) = same as previous value; (n/a) = not comparable to previous value

Priority	Performance Indicator	Nottinghamshire				National Average	Statistical Neighbours
		Data updated since previous report?	Reporting Period	Current Value	Previous Value		
A: Continue to improve our work to keep children and young people safe	AP01 Initial assessments for Children's Social Care carried out within timescales	✓	2013/14 Q2	72.7% (+)	64.0% (13/14 Q1)	77.4% (11/12)	77.6% (11/12)
	AP02 Core assessments for Children's Social Care carried out within timescales	✓	2013/14 Q2	86.3% (+)	80.1% (13/14 Q1)	75.5% (11/12)	75.3% (11/12)
	AP03 Percentage of child protection cases reviewed within timescale	✓	2013/14 Q2	99.6% (+)	98.0% (13/14 Q1)	96.7% (11/12)	97.0% (11/12)
	AP04 Re-referrals to Children's Social Care	✓	2013/14 Q2	24.9% (-)	24.4% (13/14 Q1)	26.1% (11/12)	24.0% (11/12)
	AP05 Children who are subject to a child protection plan for 2 years or more	✓	2013/14 Q2	5.7% (-)	1.4% (13/14 Q1)	5.6% (11/12)	5.3% (11/12)
	AP06 Children becoming the subject of a child protection plan on more than one occasion	✓	2013/14 Q2	15.1% (-)	12.1% (13/14 Q1)	13.8% (11/12)	14.5% (11/12)
	AP07a Percentage of children adopted who were placed with their adopters within 21 months (639 days) of becoming looked after	✓	2013/14 Q2	63.7% (+)	56.3% (13/14 Q1)	-	-
	AP07b Percentage of children adopted who were matched with their adopters within 7 months (213 days) of placement order	✓	2013/14 Q2	33% (-)	35% (13/14 Q1)	-	-
	AP08 Percentage of Children's Social Care quality audits assessed as adequate or better	✓	2013/14 Q2	82% (+)	76% (13/14 Q1)	-	-
	AP09 Looked after children with 3 or more placements in any one year	✓	2013/14 Q2	7.5% (-)	7.0% (13/14 Q1)	11.0% (11/12)	10.6% (11/12)
	AP10 Percentage of looked after children cases reviewed within timescale	✓	2013/14 Q2	93.4% (+)	93.2% (13/14 Q1)	90.5% (10/11)	90.1% (10/11)
	AP11 Percentage of care leavers in suitable accommodation	-	2012/13 annual	87.0% (+)	82.7% (11/12)	88.3% (11/12)	89.1% (11/12)

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Priority	Performance Indicator	Nottinghamshire				National Average	Statistical Neighbours
		Data updated since previous report?	Reporting Period	Current Value	Previous Value		
B: Continue to improve how well children and young people achieve in schools and colleges	BP01 Pupils achieving Level 4 in reading, writing & mathematics at age 11	✓	2012/13 academic	76.6% (n/a) (p)	New definition ¹	75.0% (p) (12/13)	-
	BP02 Achievement of 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent (inc. English & maths)	✓	2012/13 academic	62.4% (+) (p)	60.6% (11/12 academic)	58.6% (p) (12/13)	58.4% (11/12)
	BP03a Primary schools judged by Ofsted as having good or outstanding standards of behaviour	-	2012/13 academic	94.2% (+)	93.0% (11/12 academic)	93.9% (p) (11/12)	93.6% (11/12)
	BP03b Secondary schools judged by Ofsted as having good/outstanding standards of behaviour	-	2012/13 academic	87.9% (+)	68.3% (11/12 academic)	84.4% (11/12)	85.8% (11/12)
	BP04a Number of primary schools in an Ofsted category	✓	June 2013 snapshot	9 (-) (p)	8 (Mar 2013)	-	-
	BP04b Number of secondary schools in an Ofsted category	✓	June 2013 snapshot	1 (=) (p)	1 (Mar 2013)	-	-
	BP05 Early years foundation stage attainment	✓	2012/13 academic	56.6% (n/a) (p)	New definition ²	52.0% (12/13) (p)	-
	BP06 Percentage of young people who have attained a full Level 3 qualification by age 19	✓	2011/12 academic	48.7% (+)	47.4% (10/11 academic)	57.9% (11/12)	53.3% (11/12)
	BP07 Participation in education, employment and training of young people aged 16-18	-	2013/14 Q1	83.8% (-)	84.1% (12/13 Q4)	81.1% (12/13 Q4)	81.2% (12/13 Q4)
	BP08a Percentage of A level entries at A*-E grades	✓	2012/13 academic	98.0% (+) (p)	97.5% (11/12 academic)	98.7% (p) (12/13)	-
	BP08b Percentage of A level entries at A*-B grades	✓	2012/13 academic	45.6% (+) (p)	43.4% (11/12 academic)	53.2% (p) (12/13)	-

¹ Combined examination performance indicator has been changed nationally from 'English & mathematics' to 'reading, writing and mathematics'. Direct comparisons with previous years are therefore not possible.

² Due to the new Foundation Stage assessment framework, no comparisons to previous results are possible.

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Priority	Performance Indicator	Nottinghamshire				National Average	Statistical Neighbours
		Data updated since previous report?	Reporting Period	Current Value	Previous Value		
C: Reduce the gap in educational achievement for all ages	CP01a Attainment gap at age 11 between pupils taking free school meals and the rest (<i>FSM at time of assessment</i>)	✓	2012/13 academic	20.5% (n/a) (p)	New definition ¹	-	-
	CP01b Attainment gap at age 11 between pupils taking free school meals and the rest (<i>FSM during past six years</i>)	✓	2012/13 academic	19.8% (n/a) (p)	New definition ¹	-	-
	CP02a Attainment gap at age 16 between pupils taking free school meals and the rest (<i>FSM at time of assessment</i>)	✓	2012/13 academic	31.1% (+) (p)	31.8% (11/12 academic)	26.4% (11/12)	32.0% (11/12)
	CP02b Attainment gap at age 16 between pupils taking free school meals and the rest (<i>FSM during past six years</i>)	✓	2012/13 academic	31.2% (-) (p)	30.7% (11/12 academic)	-	-
	CP03 Rate of permanent exclusions from school	-	2011/12 academic	0.09% (+)	0.10% (10/11 academic)	0.07% (11/12)	0.07% (11/12)
	CP04 Percentage of overall absence in primary, secondary and special schools	-	2011/12 academic	5.00% (+)	5.67% (10/11 academic)	5.10% (11/12)	5.05% (11/12)
	CP05 Percentage of young people who have not attained a Level 2 qualification in English & maths at age 16 who go on to attain Level 2 or higher in both by the end of the academic year in which they turn age 19	-	2011/12 academic	16.00% (-)	17.70% (10/11 academic)	18.40% (11/12)	17.93% (11/12)
	CP06a Percentage of young people aged 16-18 not in education, employment or training (NEET)	✓	2013/14 Q2	2.7% (+) (p)	3.5% (13/14 Q1)	5.8% (12/13)	5.7% (12/13)
	CP06b Percentage of young people aged 16-18 whose EET destination is not known	✓	2013/14 Q2	7.6% (-) (p)	5.7% (13/14 Q1)	10.8% (12/13)	9.6% (12/13)
	CP07 The number of families who have an Education, Health and Care Plan in place (prior to it becoming a statutory requirement)	✓	2013/14 Q2	40 (n/a)	37 ³ (13/14 Q1)	-	-

³ 2013/14 Q1 value presented here for information only - performance indicator is cumulative and, as it is new, there is no value for 2012/13 Q2 against which to compare.

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Priority	Performance Indicator	Nottinghamshire				National Average	Statistical Neighbours
		Data updated since previous report?	Reporting Period	Current Value	Previous Value		
D: Improve children and young people's health and well-being	DP01 Dependent children in households whose income is below 60% of the national average	✓	2011 annual	17.0% (+)	17.1% (2010)	20.1% (2011)	-
	DP02 Numbers exiting substance misuse treatment in a planned manner	✓	2013/14 Q1	82% (-)	87% (12/13 Q4)	80% (13/14 Q1)	-
	DP03 Under 18 conception rate (per thousand females aged 15-17)	✓	2011 annual	31.9 (+)	32.9 (2010)	30.7 (2011)	31.7 (2011)
E: Continue to improve our early intervention services so that children, young people and families in the greatest need receive appropriate support	EP01a Percentage of children age 0-4 living in low income areas registered with children's centres (snapshot)	✓	2013/14 Q2	80% (+)	79% (13/14 Q1)	-	-
	EP01b Percentage of children aged 0-4 living in low income areas seen at children's centres (cumulative)	✓	2013/14 Q2	42% (=)	42% ⁴ (12/13 Q2)	-	-
	EP02 First time entrants to the Youth Justice System aged 10-17 (per 100,000)	✓	2013/14 Q1	56 (+)	105 ⁴ (12/13 Q1)	-	-
	EP03 Numbers of children and young people engaged in positive activities delivered by the Young People's Service	✓	2013/14 Q2	11,017 (-)	11,271 ⁴ (12/13 Q2)	-	-
	EP04 Percentage of children's centres achieving good or better in Ofsted inspections	-	2012/13	80% (+)	79% (11/12)	-	-
	EP05a Breastfeeding prevalence at 6-8 weeks, incl. mixed feeding methods (Notts NHS)	✓	2013/14 Q2	41.4% (+)	39.7% (12/13 Q1)	47.2% (12/13)	42.3% (12/13)
	EP05b Breastfeeding prevalence at 6-8 weeks, incl. mixed feeding methods (Bassetlaw NHS)	-	2013/14 Q1	32.8% (+)	32.0% (12/13 Q4)		

⁴ Data for this indicator is cumulative, so the 'previous value' is taken from the same point in the preceding year (rather than the preceding quarter) to provide a measure of progress.

'National average' refers to performance data for England.

Children's services statistical neighbours are:

- Cumbria
- Derbyshire
- Dudley
- Kent
- Lancashire
- Lincolnshire
- Northamptonshire
- Nottinghamshire
- Staffordshire
- Swindon
- Wigan