

21 September 2015**Agenda Item: 06****REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR , POLICY PLANNING AND
CORPORATE SERVICES****PERFORMANCE REPORTING (QUARTER 1 2015/16) - 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 April and 30 June 2015.

Information and Advice**Performance Reporting for 2014/15**

2. This report forms the first quarterly report of 2015/16, reporting on quarterly performance for the 2015/16 financial year.
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. 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.
4. 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. Nottinghamshire's Statistical Neighbours changed in October 2014 and are:
 1. Derbyshire
 2. Staffordshire
 3. Lancashire
 4. Worcestershire
 5. Cumbria
 6. Northamptonshire
 7. Essex
 8. Kent
 9. Cheshire West and Chester
 10. Warwickshire

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

Protecting the most vulnerable and ensuring that children in our care experience high quality and stable support (provisional figures):

6. The rate of initial assessments completed within timescale improved for the last quarter of the year and again in the first quarter of this financial year. This indicator will see a change in the new financial year when other authorities including Nottinghamshire move towards the continuous single assessment. If calculating those initial and core assessments completed in timescale together, performance continues to be consistently high for Quarter 1 at 83.9%.
7. Whilst there has been a slight deterioration in performance for core assessments compared to the last quarter, performance remain above target and is better than statistical neighbours and England averages. Nottinghamshire is 87.5% compared to 72.8% National performance and 70.7% statistical neighbour performance.
8. It is positive to note that for the final quarter of last year and the first quarter of this year the percentage of repeat referrals within 12 months of a previous referral is better than the target and in line with statistical neighbours and the England average.
9. At the end of June 2015 the number of children subject to a child protection plan was at the rate of 48.9 per 10,000 children. This figure is higher than that of statistical neighbours and the England average at the end of 2013/14, which were 40 and 42.1 respectively.
10. Performance in placement stability for Looked After Children is steadily improving, but remains an area for further progress including work to improve placement support to minimise disruption. As in previous quarters, there continues to be a higher number of children aged 15 or over who have experienced multiple placements as young people move into different types of independent living and supported lodgings. This is a current area of focus within the transformation and placements team.
11. There has been a slight decrease in the percentage of children remaining in long-term placements, if compared with the usual consistent performance. This is explained by the majority of long-term children in care moving to more permanent and long-term placements, such as Special Guardianship Orders, and adoptive placements, in accordance with the aims set out in each child's regular looked after review.

Educational standards and closing the attainment gap:

12. Latest data on permanent exclusions for the 2013/14 academic year from all schools (maintained, academy and special schools) shows a fall in the number to 0.04% of the overall school population (from 0.07% reported in 2012/13).
13. The data provides evidence that:
 - permanent exclusions peaked in the academic year 2007- 2008 at 165;
 - since then there has been a steady decrease in permanent exclusions. In the academic year 2013/2014 there was a 36% reduction in permanent exclusions compared to 2012/2013. In the 2013/14 academic year there were 58 permanent

exclusions; this is the largest percentage reduction in permanent exclusions in one year over the last six year period.

14. The number of Nottinghamshire primary schools in an Ofsted category (inadequate) has fallen to 3 (as at March 2015) from the 5 reported in December. The number of secondary schools in an Ofsted category has remained static at 2 over the same period.
15. The education attainment data reflects outcomes achieved by young people at the end of the academic year 2013/14. Members will recall that reports providing a detailed analysis of these outcomes have been presented to previous meetings of the Children and Young People's Committee. The performance report for Quarter 2 will cover 2015 educational attainment data.

Early Help Support:

16. A number of KPIs monitor effectiveness across a range of services that provide early help to children, young people and families.
17. The consistently high performance of all children under 5 who live in low income areas registered with a Children's Centre continues to 100% at the end of Quarter 1. This sustained figure shows that health visitors registering children with their local Children's Centre continues to be carried out in every case. Rushcliffe remains the most improved district, with an increase of over 25% within a year.
18. There also continues to be an improvement in the cumulative indicator which measures children living in low income areas who had been seen at Children's Centres. At the end of quarter 1 2015/16, 35% of children living in low income areas were seen in Children's Centres, an improvement on the same quarter of 2014/15 at 28%. At this early stage of the year, the quarter 1 figure is nearly half way towards the end of year target.
19. First time entrants (FTEs) to the youth justice system continue to be low and stable in overall countywide terms. During quarter 4 there were 49 actual entrants to the youth justice system, equating to 68 per 100,000 population. During 2014/15 there were 193 actual FTEs or 269 per 100,000 compared to 219 actual or 306 per 100,000 population for 2013/14, a decrease of 11.9%. Comparator data is available (showing January –December 2014 data), which shows Nottinghamshire is performing well in this area both regionally and nationally.

Education Health Care Plan:

20. The Education Health Care (EHC) Plan has been introduced to bring together the families and agencies for children and young people aged 0-25 years with Special Educational Needs and complex disabilities, so that they have coordinated individual support plans across a range of services. Nottinghamshire has been a pathfinder area for this work and has implemented the EHC Plan ahead of it becoming a national requirement in September 2014. There were a total of 89 EHC Plans finalised and issued during Quarter 1 in 2015/16, compared with 77 in Quarter 4 2014/15. This represents an increase of 31% over the same period the previous year, when there were 68 EHC Plans issued (albeit they were technically classed as non-statutory EHC Plans as they were finalised whilst we were a Pathfinder authority and prior to the new legislation taking effect).

Other Options Considered

21. 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

22. 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

23. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (Public Health only), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working 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 April 2015 – 30 June 2015.

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Constitutional Comments

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

Financial Comments (SS 28/08/15)

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

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

Performance reporting (2014/15) – services for children and young people – report to Children and Young People's Committee on 18 May 2015.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

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