

23rd March 2020**Agenda Item: 8****REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, FINANCE, INFRASTRUCTURE &
IMPROVEMENT****CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE CORE DATA SET - PERFORMANCE AND
FINANCE FOR QUARTER 3****Purpose of the Report**

1. This report provides the Committee with a summary of the performance and finance of the Council's services for children and young people for quarter 3 of 2019/20 (1st October to 31st December 2019).

Information

2. The Council's Planning and Performance Framework establishes the approach that the Council takes to planning and managing its performance to deliver effective and responsive services.
3. The Council has agreed that the key measures of its performance will be defined through a number of core data sets which are detailed in its Council Plan and each of its Departmental Strategies.
4. Performance against these core data sets is reported to Committee every three months (quarterly) to support the performance management of the delivery of services.

Performance Reporting for 2019/20

5. This report provides a summary of the quarter 3 position for the Children's Social Care and Education Core Data Set performance measures that fall within the responsibility of the Children and Young People's Committee. The full Core Data Set is included in **Appendices 1 and 2**. **Appendix 1** shows those measures which have received updates since the previous quarter. **Appendix 2** shows those measures which have not changed.
6. For each measure, the following information is provided:
 - Current performance and whether a high or low value is regarded as 'good'.
 - The period this current value relates to.

- An indication of whether performance has improved (+), declined (-), or remained the same (=) over the current reporting period. The most recently available annual performance and which year this relates to.
- The underlying numbers used to calculate the % for some measures is provided within the measure description.
- If a measure is cumulative, this is stated in the measure description.
- Comparator data of the national average for England, and that of the Council's children's services statistical neighbours, where this data is available.

Child and Family Assessments

7. Whilst it is acknowledged that there has been a very slight dip in performance on this measure, decreasing from 97.4% to 96.4% in quarter 3, overall performance for assessments completed in timescale continues to be good and above target.

Child protection

8. The number of children on Child Protection Plans has decreased this quarter, bringing Nottinghamshire more in line with statistical neighbours and the England figure. Managers continue to monitor thresholds for cases to progress to Child Protection Conferences.
9. For Child Protection Plans (CPPs) lasting two years or more, the improvement reported last quarter has continued, as the percentage has dropped from 2.7% to 1.6% in Q3. Close management attention continues for all plans over 15 months.
10. The percentage of children becoming the subject of a CPP for a second or subsequent time has decreased to 17.1%. This is a positive figure for quarter 3, however the area continues to receive close management attention to keep this measure on or exceeding target.
11. It is of concern that this value has gone down by 6% from the previous quarter which exceeded both the England and statistical neighbour averages. Some meetings have been rearranged out of timescale in order to facilitate family participation and to allow staff from outside organisations to attend. Managers will monitor this and act as needed on an ongoing basis.

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and Missing

12. There has continued to be a steady decline in the numbers of CSE cases coming through the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub and a consequent decrease in subsequent activity. Audit work has been completed to examine these figures and there has not been any significant concern noted about the decreased number of children subject to CSE meetings. This issue will continue to receive management attention to ensure the figures represent the scale of the issue in Nottinghamshire.
13. The missing data appears consistent with previous quarters but has seen a reduction in both the occurrences and number of Looked After Children going missing. This is considered to be due to the darker/colder months and continuing work with Multi Agency Meetings and Hotspots to address the reasons for multiple missing occurrences. There are overall improvements in return interviews completed within timescales but there is still

much room for improvement, and challenge and support will continue to be offered to operational teams in order to make further progress.

Looked After Children

14. This measure considers children in care (CiC) who have had more than three placements during the previous 12 months as a proportion of all CiC, and the data shows improved performance has now been sustained for three consecutive quarters, an improvement in performance from the previous two quarters. Please note that some level of caution should be exercised when benchmarking against national data because there is a difference between how the current Nottinghamshire figure is calculated and the way in which the national average data was computed in 2017/18. It effectively over-inflates the Nottinghamshire figure, hence the target of 12% has been derived to account for this.
15. The data shows the Council's performance has declined in the last quarter for CiC in long-term placements, falling marginally below target for the first time. This is partly attributable to the many planned placement moves for older young people in care as they transition into semi-independent accommodation to equip them with independence skills as part of their wider transition into adulthood. Almost 40% of the young people who experience multiple placement moves are over 16 years of age. This somewhat masks the fact that the majority of children in care aged under 16 years experience very stable placements over the longer term.
16. Equally, it is worth noting that the national data against which Nottinghamshire's current performance is benchmarked is over two years old (albeit it remains the most recently published national data on this matter). Given the national challenges around sufficiency of care placements, it is anticipated that the like-for-like current national figure will be lower than Nottinghamshire's. Please note that as with the stability of placements measure above, a degree of caution should be exercised when benchmarking against national data because there is a difference between how the current Nottinghamshire figure is calculated and the way in which the national average data was computed in 2017/18. It effectively over-inflates the Nottinghamshire figure, hence the target of 67% has been derived to account for this.

Adoption

17. The average length of time between a child's admission into care and placement remains very positive. It indicates that care planning activity from early in the child's entry into care is effective in reducing delay in children being placed with their permanent carers.
18. The average number of days between placement order and deciding on an appropriate family for a child or children remained slightly above target but is well below statistical neighbours and England. This indicates that practice remains effective in identifying adopters and matching without delay.

Care leavers

19. The service has placed its focus on Care Leavers accessing Employment, Education and/or Training and for young people to successfully achieve this there is a need to ensure that other basic aspects around accommodation, finance, health and wellbeing are in

place. There is a committed team of Personal Advisers and 1.5 full-time equivalent Achievement Advisers who are supporting young people to explore their pathways to success and help guide them to achieve in the world of work. The Council now has good working relationships with the seven district councils to help promote opportunities for care leavers, including care leaver apprenticeships and funding the level of pay to the National Minimum Wage. Working is also taking place with local businesses to explore apprenticeships, training, mentoring and work experience opportunities including taster days for young people to experience different service sectors. The Council has developed a new Employability Assessment Tool to help identify aspirations for young people and help identify action plans to encourage progression back into education, training and employment. Many of Nottinghamshire's care leavers are attending University and a Work Experience Readiness and Knowledge (WERK) Programme has been developed to help encourage looked after 16-17 year olds to experience the world of work so that their options at 19-21 years will be more readily available and achievable.

20. Suitable accommodation is key for young people to not only feel safe, but to also have positive health and wellbeing and as a foundation for progressing with their employment, education and training. In Nottinghamshire, the Council has its own supported accommodation provision working together with the Leaving Care Service to help young people progress from supported accommodation to living independently. As part of the Care Leaver Offer, there are Care Leaver Champions in all seven district councils who work with the Council to prioritise the needs of care leavers and this has enabled Nottinghamshire to remove the "local connection" need for housing provision and to ensure that young people can move into appropriate council accommodation when they are ready. The Council has been issued funding from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government for a Homelessness Prevention Personal Advisor until March 2021 who is working with care leavers to help prevent street homelessness, and to develop links with the Council's partners including accommodation planning for those leaving custody and for the 21Plus cohort.

Educational standards

Ofsted inspections

21. The following paragraphs on Ofsted inspections are based on the current inspections of schools and do not take into account the former judgement of schools which have closed and re-opened as a sponsored academy (current Ofsted reporting arrangements include former judgements of closed schools until they are re-inspected). Numbers on roll are as at October 2019.
22. The number of primary schools in an Ofsted category (Inadequate) remains unchanged at two schools from last quarter. However, since these figures were published Haggonfields Primary (Bassetlaw district with 96 pupils on roll) which became Inadequate in January 2019 (previously judged as Good) has since converted to a sponsored academy (as at the start of February) under the leadership of the Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham. Hillocks Primary (Ashfield district, LA maintained school; 297 pupils on roll), which was re-inspected last May, remains Inadequate. It is proposed to close at the end of May for academy conversion.

23. The number of secondary schools in an Ofsted category also remains unchanged at two schools from the last quarter. Sutton Community Academy (Ashfield district, a sponsor led academy which converted January 2013 under the leadership of Academy Transformation Trust; 717 pupils on roll) became Inadequate in March (previously judged as Good). Kirkby College (Ashfield district; a convertor academy which converted August 2012 with 399 pupils on roll) became Inadequate in January 2018 (previously judged as Good).

Early Years Foundation Stage Profile

24. The percentage of pupils achieving a good level of development in the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile in Nottinghamshire schools and academies has increased by 0.9 percentage points to 70.6% in 2019. Nationally 71.8% of pupils achieved this measure which is a 0.3 percentage point increase from 2018. The gap between Nottinghamshire and national averages continues to narrow. In 2017 the gap was 2.5 percentage points below national, 1.8 in 2018 and now 1.2 this year. Against all 151 local authorities nationally Nottinghamshire is placed 103rd on this measure (where 1st is best) which represents a small rise in position from 111th last year. Comparisons to statistical neighbours show a 0.1 point fall from 2018 (to 72.0%) and places Nottinghamshire 10th (out of all 11 local authorities) which is no change on last year. Analysis by school district shows results are varied. Newark, Mansfield and Rushcliffe witnessed a fall in results from 2018 with other districts increasing. The gap between district and national also shows positive improvements from 2018. Last year only Rushcliffe had a higher good level of development outcome than the national average but this year Bassetlaw and Broxtowe also join Rushcliffe to be above average. The percentage of pupils achieving a good level of development in Nottinghamshire schools and academies by area is as follows:

Table 1 – Percentage of children achieving a good level of development by district

	2016/17		2017/18		2018/19		Diff. from 2017/18
	Pupils	% Good level of dev.	Pupils	% Good level of dev.	Pupils	% Good level of dev.	
Nottinghamshire	9,738	68.2	9,432	69.7	9,315	70.6	0.9
<i>Ashfield</i>	<i>1,520</i>	<i>64.4</i>	<i>1,532</i>	<i>66.3</i>	<i>1,511</i>	<i>68.0</i>	<i>1.7</i>
<i>Bassetlaw</i>	<i>1,357</i>	<i>67.8</i>	<i>1,267</i>	<i>67.3</i>	<i>1,239</i>	<i>72.2</i>	<i>4.9</i>
<i>Broxtowe</i>	<i>1,356</i>	<i>70.3</i>	<i>1,312</i>	<i>70.3</i>	<i>1,240</i>	<i>72.0</i>	<i>1.7</i>
<i>Gedling</i>	<i>1,380</i>	<i>67.8</i>	<i>1,337</i>	<i>70.0</i>	<i>1,334</i>	<i>71.7</i>	<i>1.7</i>
<i>Mansfield</i>	<i>1,433</i>	<i>66.0</i>	<i>1,317</i>	<i>67.2</i>	<i>1,397</i>	<i>65.9</i>	<i>-1.3</i>
<i>Newark</i>	<i>1,352</i>	<i>66.1</i>	<i>1,310</i>	<i>68.2</i>	<i>1,230</i>	<i>67.2</i>	<i>-1.0</i>
<i>Rushcliffe</i>	<i>1,340</i>	<i>75.4</i>	<i>1,357</i>	<i>79.0</i>	<i>1,364</i>	<i>77.5</i>	<i>-1.5</i>
National	-	70.7	-	71.5	-	71.8	0.3
Stat. Neighbours	-	71.3	-	72.1	-	72.0	-0.1

District refers to the geographical location of the school

Statistical neighbour is based on the averages of each LA's outcome (excluding Notts.) and is not weighted

25. The Early Years Foundation Stage attainment gap for pupils eligible for free school meals (FSM) attaining a good level of development (GLD) and those not eligible has widened slightly. The Nottinghamshire gap now stands at 23.0 percentage points which is a 0.3 percentage point increase from the 22.7 reported in 2018. This remains above the 18.5 percentage point gap reported nationally which represents an increase of 0.7 percentage points from last year. Results by district vary. Bassetlaw and Broxtowe witnessed large increases in the attainment of FSM pupils (16.0 and 9.1 percentage points respectively), thereby reducing the gap in these districts to 14.2 and 17.5 percentage points respectively which are two of the lowest gaps amongst all districts. Ashfield, Gedling and Mansfield witnessed a widening of the gap. This was mostly caused due to a fall in attainment of FSM eligible pupils while those not eligible for FSM witnessed increases. GLD outcomes by free school meal (FSM) eligibility and the associated gap are as follows:

Table 2 – Percentage of FSM pupils achieving a good level of development by district and the associated gap

	FSM	2016/17			2017/18			2018/19			Diff. from 2017/18	GAP change
		Pupils	%	GAP	Pupils	%	GAP	Pupils	%	GAP		
Ashfield	Yes	228	42.1	26.2	257	52.1	17.1	286	49.0	23.4	-3.1	6.3
	No	1,292	68.3		1,274	69.2		1,225	72.4		3.2	
Bassetlaw	Yes	143	51.0	18.8	155	43.9	26.8	167	59.9	14.2	16.0	-12.6
	No	1,214	69.8		1,111	70.7		1,072	74.1		3.4	
Broxtowe	Yes	142	49.3	23.5	127	47.2	25.6	128	56.3	17.5	9.1	-8.1
	No	1,213	72.8		1,184	72.8		1,112	73.8		1.0	
Gedling	Yes	127	43.3	27.0	118	55.1	16.4	143	44.1	30.9	-11.0	14.5
	No	1,252	70.3		1,219	71.5		1,191	75.0		3.5	
Mansfield	Yes	202	52.0	16.3	226	50.0	20.8	240	45.8	24.2	-4.2	3.4
	No	1,231	68.3		1,091	70.8		1,157	70.0		-0.8	
Newark	Yes	132	47.7	20.5	146	49.3	21.2	160	50.6	19.1	1.3	-2.1
	No	1,219	68.2		1,164	70.5		1,070	69.7		-0.8	
Rushcliffe	Yes	64	50.0	26.8	71	49.3	31.3	63	52.4	26.3	3.1	-5.0
	No	1,274	76.8		1,286	80.6		1,301	78.7		-1.9	
LA	Yes	1,038	47.6	23.0	1,100	49.7	22.7	1,187	50.5	23.0	0.8	0.3
	No	8,695	70.6		8,329	72.4		8,128	73.5		1.1	
National	Yes		55.9	17.6		56.6	17.8		56.3	18.5	-0.3	0.7
	No		73.5			74.4			74.8		0.4	

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Key Stage 2 (end of primary)

26. Final data for the percentage of pupils achieving the expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics at the end of primary education (typically 11 year olds) shows Nottinghamshire is in line with the national average (once rounded). 64.7% of pupils achieved this measure (no change from 2018) compared with 65.0% nationally and 64.7% amongst statistical neighbours. Against all local authorities nationally (151 with published data) Nottinghamshire is ranked 79th on this measure and against statistical neighbours is

placed 5th (out of 11 local authorities; where 1st is best). The percentage of pupils achieving the expected standard in combined reading, writing and mathematics in Nottinghamshire schools and academies by area is as follows:

Table 3 – Percentage of pupils achieving the expected standard in combined reading, writing & mathematics by district

	2016/17		2017/18		2018/19		Diff. from 2017/18
	Pupils	% Exp. Standard Rd, Wr, Ma	Pupils	% Exp. Standard Rd, Wr, Ma	Pupils	% Exp. Standard Rd, Wr, Ma	
Nottinghamshire	8,749	61.8	9,097	64.7	9,320	64.7	0.0
<i>Ashfield</i>	<i>1,367</i>	<i>57.1</i>	<i>1,385</i>	<i>63.3</i>	<i>1,381</i>	<i>59.8</i>	-3.5
<i>Bassetlaw</i>	<i>1,207</i>	<i>58.5</i>	<i>1,262</i>	<i>62.0</i>	<i>1,289</i>	<i>60.4</i>	-1.6
<i>Broxtowe</i>	<i>1,165</i>	<i>64.8</i>	<i>1,215</i>	<i>67.2</i>	<i>1,289</i>	<i>66.3</i>	-0.9
<i>Gedling</i>	<i>1,222</i>	<i>63.1</i>	<i>1,291</i>	<i>64.8</i>	<i>1,344</i>	<i>67.4</i>	2.6
<i>Mansfield</i>	<i>1,212</i>	<i>55.8</i>	<i>1,250</i>	<i>57.5</i>	<i>1,329</i>	<i>60.6</i>	3.1
<i>Newark</i>	<i>1,264</i>	<i>58.7</i>	<i>1,281</i>	<i>64.0</i>	<i>1,313</i>	<i>63.3</i>	-0.7
<i>Rushcliffe</i>	<i>1,312</i>	<i>74.5</i>	<i>1,413</i>	<i>73.5</i>	<i>1,375</i>	<i>75.2</i>	1.7
National	-	61.0	-	64.0	-	65.0	1.0
Stat. Neighbours	-	60.8	-	64.5	-	64.7	0.2

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27. Final data shows the Key Stage 2 attainment gap for pupils eligible for free school meals at any point in the past six years (FSM6) attaining the expected standard in each of reading, writing and mathematics shows no change on 2018 remaining at 22.6 percentage points. 48.0% of Nottinghamshire FSM6 pupils achieved this standard compared with 70.6% of non-FSM6 pupils. Comparisons to national data show the equivalent figures to be 52.0% and 71.0% respectively giving a national gap of 19.0 percentage points which is 3.6 percentage points lower than Nottinghamshire.
28. The difference in the gap is due to attainment of FSM6 pupils in Nottinghamshire being 4 percentage points lower than the equivalent group nationally (52.0% national FSM6). The non-FSM6 group is in line with national (once rounded) at 70.6% achieving the expected standard.
29. Outcomes by district show the FSM6 gap is widest in Rushcliffe and Ashfield districts at 27.0 and 26.6 percentage points respectively. Gedling district witnessed the greatest proportion of FSM6 pupils achieving the expected standard at 53.1%. Bassetlaw and Newark were the districts with the lowest gap at 17.9 percentage points.
30. Key Stage 2 outcomes for those achieving the expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics by free school meal at any point in the past six years (FSM6) eligibility and the associated gap are as follows:

Table 4 – Percentage of FSM6 pupils achieving the expected standard in combined reading, writing & mathematics by district and the associated gap

	FSM6	2016/17			2017/18			2018/19			Diff. from 2017/18	GAP change
		Pupils	%	GAP	Pupils	%	GAP	Pupils	%	GAP		
Ashfield	Yes	504	43.5	21.6	472	49.4	21.1	482	42.5	26.6	-6.9	5.5
	No	863	65.1		913	70.5		899	69.1		-1.4	
Bassetlaw	Yes	355	45.1	19.0	370	47.0	21.2	320	46.9	17.9	-0.1	-3.3
	No	852	64.1		892	68.2		969	64.8		-3.4	
Broxtowe	Yes	290	50.7	18.8	329	55.0	16.7	318	50.3	21.2	-4.7	4.5
	No	875	69.5		886	71.7		971	71.5		-0.2	
Gedling	Yes	308	46.4	22.3	322	46.9	23.8	337	53.1	19.1	6.2	-4.7
	No	914	68.7		969	70.7		1,007	72.2		1.5	
Mansfield	Yes	420	38.3	26.7	437	43.7	21.2	447	46.3	21.5	2.6	0.3
	No	792	65.0		813	64.9		882	67.8		2.9	
Newark	Yes	323	39.6	25.6	302	44.7	25.3	325	49.8	17.9	5.1	-7.4
	No	941	65.2		979	70.0		988	67.7		-2.3	
Rushcliffe	Yes	164	54.9	22.5	164	53.7	22.4	180	51.7	27.0	-2.0	4.6
	No	1,148	77.4		1,249	76.1		1,195	78.7		2.6	
LA	Yes	2,364	44.3	24.0	2,396	48.1	22.6	2,409	48.0	22.6	-0.1	0.0
	No	6,385	68.3		6,701	70.7		6,911	70.6		-0.1	
National	Yes		48.0	19.0		51.0	19.0		52.0	19.0	1.0	0.0
	No		67.0			70.0			71.0		1.0	

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Key Stage 4 (end of secondary)

31. This is the third year of changes to the grading structure in GCSE English language, English literature and mathematics which are now awarded in the grading scale of 9 to 1 (9 being the top grade and not A*-G as previously reported). In 2018 this was extended to 20 other subjects (including science, history, geography, some foreign languages, art, music, drama and P.E) with a further 25 subjects (such as business, design and technology, economics, engineering, media studies, some foreign languages and psychology) converting to the new grading this year.
32. This means that most subjects in England are now reported in this way with only a handful (biblical Hebrew, Gujarati, Persian, Portuguese and Turkish) continuing to be awarded A*-G grades as previously reported.
33. Broadly the same proportion of students will achieve a grade 4 or better as previously achieved a grade C or above but instead of the four grades (A*, A, B and C) which most students achieve, the new grading structure will have six grades (9, 8, 7, 6, 5 and 4). Fewer grade 9s will be awarded than A*s.

34. Grade 4 will be regarded as a 'standard pass' and a grade 5 as a 'strong pass'. The government wants to see the percentage of pupils achieving a grade 5 and above rising over time and to reflect this ambition, achievement at the 'strong pass' will be one of the benchmarks used to measure the performance of schools.
35. Final data for 2019 shows 45.4% of pupils achieved a strong pass (grades 9-5) in both GCSE English and mathematics which represents a slight fall of 0.2 percentage points from 2018. Nationally over the same period 43.4% of state funded schools achieved this measure which is a 0.1 percentage point fall. Nottinghamshire is placed 54th against all local authorities nationally (a slight fall from 52nd in 2018). Comparisons to statistical neighbours show the average for this measure to be 42.9% (which represents a 0.2 point increase) with Nottinghamshire placed 3rd (a drop of one place from 2018) against all 11 authorities.
36. At the standard pass (grades 9-4) final data shows 67.6% of Nottinghamshire pupils achieved grades 9-4 in both English and mathematics, an increase of 1.0 percentage points on 2018. Nationally there was a slight increase of 0.5 percentage points to 64.9%. Comparisons with all authorities nationally place Nottinghamshire 47th (53rd in 2018). Against statistical neighbours Nottinghamshire shows no change in position and is placed 2nd out of 11 authorities. The percentage of pupils achieving standard and strong passes in English and mathematics in Nottinghamshire schools and academies by area is as follows:

Table 5 – Percentage of pupils achieving standard and strong passes in GCSE English and mathematics by district

	2016/17			2017/18			2018/19			Diff. from 2017/18	
	Pupils	GCSE En&Ma		Pupils	GCSE En&Ma		Pupils	GCSE En&Ma		Strong Pass (9-5)	Standard Pass (9-4)
		% 9-5	% 9-4		% 9-5	% 9-4		% 9-5	% 9-4		
Nottinghamshire	7,510	45.6	65.9	7,494	45.6	66.6	7,746	45.4	67.6	-0.2	1.0
<i>Ashfield</i>	1,165	34.3	55.7	1,229	32.7	56.0	1,267	31.6	54.7	-1.1	-1.3
<i>Bassetlaw</i>	996	51.6	70.7	1,045	50.3	69.4	1,113	48.8	71.5	-1.5	2.1
<i>Broxtowe</i>	876	45.4	66.6	881	42.8	64.7	924	45.1	68.4	2.3	3.7
<i>Gedling</i>	1,163	47.6	68.5	1,107	47.2	68.1	1,143	46.9	68.5	-0.3	0.4
<i>Mansfield</i>	1,178	37.0	57.0	1,131	37.0	58.2	1,125	38.0	59.8	1.0	1.6
<i>Newark</i>	850	38.1	60.8	781	41.6	66.2	841	41.6	65.2	0.0	-1.0
<i>Rushcliffe</i>	1,282	62.0	80.2	1,320	64.4	81.7	1,333	63.3	83.4	-1.1	1.7
National	-	42.9	64.2	-	43.5	64.4	-	43.4	64.9	-0.1	0.5
Stat. Neighbours	-	42.4	64.5	-	42.7	64.5	-	42.9	65.1	0.2	0.6

District refers to the geographical location of the school

Statistical neighbour is based on the averages of each LA's outcome (excluding Notts.) and is not weighted

37. Final data for 2019 shows the Key Stage 4 attainment gap for pupils eligible for free school meals at any point in the past six years (FSM6) attaining a strong pass (grades 9-5) in both GCSE English and mathematics to be 26.4 percentage points which is a narrowing of the

gap compared with the year before (28.2 percentage points in 2018). 24.8% of Nottinghamshire FSM6 pupils achieved this standard compared with 51.2% of non-FSM6 pupils. Comparisons to provisional NCER (National Consortium for Examination Results) national data show the equivalent provisional figures to be 24.8% and 49.3% respectively giving a national gap of 24.5 percentage points which represents a slight narrowing of 0.2 percentage points.

38. District outcomes show that Bassetlaw has the lowest FSM6 gap closely followed by Gedling standing at 18.1 and 19.4 percentage points respectively. Rushcliffe is the district with the highest gap but also the district with the highest performing outcomes for FSM6 pupils at 36.0%. Ashfield has the lowest attainment with 15.9% achieving this.

Table 6 – Percentage of FSM6 pupils achieving 9-5 grades in both GCSE English and mathematics by district and the associated gap

	FSM6	2016/17			2017/18			2018/19			Diff. from 2017/18	GAP change
		Pupils	%	GAP	Pupils	%	GAP	Pupils	%	GAP		
Ashfield	Yes	338	14.5	27.9	358	15.4	24.4	372	15.9	22.3	0.5	-2.1
	No	827	42.4		871	39.8		895	38.2		-1.6	
Bassetlaw	Yes	188	37.8	17.0	238	37.0	17.3	245	34.7	18.1	-2.3	0.8
	No	808	54.8		807	54.3		868	52.8		-1.5	
Broxtowe	Yes	202	21.3	31.4	181	14.9	35.1	181	21.5	29.4	6.6	-5.7
	No	674	52.7		700	50.0		743	50.9		0.9	
Gedling	Yes	239	24.7	28.9	234	32.1	19.1	260	31.9	19.4	-0.2	0.3
	No	924	53.6		873	51.2		883	51.3		0.1	
Mansfield	Yes	353	19.3	25.3	334	18.0	27.0	315	18.7	26.7	0.7	-0.3
	No	825	44.6		797	45.0		810	45.4		0.4	
Newark	Yes	219	18.3	26.7	183	20.8	27.2	174	23.6	22.7	2.8	-4.5
	No	631	45.0		598	48.0		667	46.3		-1.7	
Rushcliffe	Yes	161	29.8	36.8	159	36.5	31.7	161	36.0	31.1	-0.5	-0.6
	No	1,121	66.6		1,161	68.2		1,172	67.1		-1.1	
LA	Yes	1,700	22.2	30.2	1,687	23.8	28.2	1,708	24.8	26.4	1.0	-1.8
	No	5,810	52.4		5,807	52.0		6,038	51.2		-0.8	
National	Yes		24.6	24.4		25.1	24.7		24.8	24.5	-0.3	-0.2
	No		49.0			49.8			49.3		-0.5	

District refers to the geographical location of the school

39. At the standard pass (grades 9-4) in both GCSE English and mathematics there has been a narrowing of the gap. Final 2019 figures show 46.8% of FSM6 pupils achieved 9-4 grades in both GCSE English and mathematics compared with 73.5% who were not FSM6. The FSM6 gap for the County is 26.7 percentage points which represents a narrowing of the gap compared with 28.0 percentage points reported in 2018. Comparisons to provisional NCER (National Consortium for Examination Results) national data shows the attainment gap in this measure stands at 26.3 percentage points (44.9% of FSM6 pupils achieving this measure compared with 71.2% of non-FSM6), which represents a slight widening of the gap by 0.1 percentage points from 2018.

40. Outcomes by district show that Broxtowe district witnessed the largest increase in FSM6 attainment, a 7.2 percentage point increase to 47.5% achieving the measure. Rushcliffe is the area with the highest FSM6 attainment at 59.6%.

Table 7 – Percentage of FSM6 pupils achieving 9-4 grades in both GCSE English and mathematics by district and the associated gap

	FSM6	2016/17			2017/18			2018/19			Diff. from 2017/18	GAP change
		Pupils	%	GAP	Pupils	%	GAP	Pupils	%	GAP		
Ashfield	Yes	338	33.4	31.4	358	34.1	30.9	372	37.4	24.5	3.3	-6.4
	No	827	64.8		871	65.0		895	61.9		-3.1	
Bassetlaw	Yes	188	59.6	13.7	238	57.6	15.3	245	58.8	16.3	1.2	1.0
	No	808	73.3		807	72.9		868	75.1		2.2	
Broxtowe	Yes	202	44.6	28.5	181	40.3	30.7	181	47.5	26.0	7.2	-4.7
	No	674	73.1		700	71.0		743	73.5		2.5	
Gedling	Yes	239	47.3	26.7	234	55.1	16.5	260	54.2	18.5	-0.9	2.0
	No	924	74.0		873	71.6		883	72.7		1.1	
Mansfield	Yes	353	33.7	33.2	334	35.3	32.5	315	36.2	32.8	0.9	0.3
	No	825	66.9		797	67.8		810	69.0		1.2	
Newark	Yes	219	34.7	35.2	183	46.4	25.8	174	45.4	24.9	-1.0	-0.9
	No	631	69.9		598	72.2		667	70.3		-1.9	
Rushcliffe	Yes	161	52.8	31.3	159	58.5	26.3	161	59.6	27.1	1.1	0.8
	No	1,121	84.1		1,161	84.8		1,172	86.7		1.9	
LA	Yes	1,700	41.6	31.4	1,687	44.9	28.0	1,708	46.8	26.7	1.9	-1.3
	No	5,810	73.0		5,807	72.9		6,038	73.5		0.6	
National	Yes		44.6	26.1		44.9	26.2		44.9	26.3	0.0	0.1
	No		70.7			71.1			71.2		0.1	

District refers to the geographical location of the school

Key Stage 5 (post-16)

41. The percentage of A-Level entries in Nottinghamshire sixth forms awarded a pass grade at A*-E fell slightly to 98.2%, a decrease of 0.3 percentage points from 2018. Comparisons to all state funded schools and colleges nationally witnessed a similar fall (0.5 percentage points) to 97.2%.
42. The percentage of A-Level entries in Nottinghamshire sixth forms awarded a pass grade at A*-B has increased slightly to 49.5%, 0.2 percentage points from 2018. Comparisons to all state funded schools and colleges nationally show a decrease of 1.6 to 48.4%.

Two-year-old take up

43. The number of 2-year olds taking up their free entitlement in the autumn 2019 term shows an increase from the same period last year. 80.4% of eligible 2 year olds are attending providers, a 4.5 percentage point increase (from 75.9%) from the same term last year. Rushcliffe district continues to have the highest proportion of eligible 2 year olds accessing their entitlement whereas Ashfield and Bassetlaw districts has the lowest at 73.2% and 73.1% respectively. Comparisons with the same term last year show Gedling district

witnessed a fall (down 4.6 percentage points from autumn 2018 to 88.9%). All other districts witnessed increases in take up.

Youth Offending & Early Help Support

44. The rate (per 100,000 population) of First Time Entrants (FTEs) saw a 22% drop for the full year to March 2019 (251 vs 322). This downward trend has continued with quarter 1 and quarter 2 coming in at 71 compared with 131 for the same two quarters last year. The focus on reducing FTEs within the Youth Justice Service (YJS) is believed to be significant and it seems the impact of changes with frontline Police and YJS staff is now being seen.

Summary Financial Position

45. The Children and Families Department Revenue Budget is forecast to overspend by £9.571m (7.55%) at Period 9 as summarised in the table below.

Summary Revenue Position

Previous Variance £000	Change in Variance £000	Division	Annual Budget £000	Actual to Period 9 £000	Year-End Forecast £000	Latest Forecast Variance £000	Variance as % of Budget %
		Children & Young People's Committee					
1,100	164	Youth, Families & Social Work	58,014	43,741	59,278	1,264	2.18
150	15	Education Learning & Skills	5,983	5,103	6,148	165	2.76
8,125	10	Commissioning & Resources	48,716	35,668	56,851	8,135	16.70
0	7	Capital & Central Charges	13,978	13,912	13,985	7	0.05
9,375	196	Net Committee Overspend	126,691	98,424	136,262	9,571	7.55

46. The Youth, Families and Social Work Division is forecasting an overspend of £1.3m. The major contributing factor is a £1.4m overspend on social work staffing with £1.3m relating to the Hard to Retain teams. This has been offset by net underspends in other areas. The overspend has arisen due to a combination of staffing changes including permanent recruitment to vacancies, additional capacity staff to respond to continuing increased workload and maintain manageable caseloads, and agency workers. All agency posts continue to require the explicit approval of the Service Director, Youth, Families and Social Work, and are subject to scrutiny by the quarterly Agency Challenge Panel.
47. The forecast agency spend for the Hard to Retain teams is £5.4m (2018-19 £5.0m) and at the end of December there were 75 (76 period 8) agency Social Workers and Team Managers in these and the LAC team. The assumptions in the forecast are for agency numbers to reduce to 73 (70 period 8) by March 2020 which takes into account a number of newly qualified social workers, the continuation of additional capacity to maintain sustainable caseloads and to cover vacancies etc. It also includes a reduction to reflect the annual leave, sickness and bank holidays to be taken by agency workers.

48. The Commissioning and Resources Division is forecasting an overspend of £8.1m. The major contributing factor is an £8.4m overspend on external residential placements for Children Looked After of which £1.7m is attributable to growth in number of Independent Fostering Agency (IFA) placements, £4.3m residential and £2.4m on semi-independent placements. External placements increased by a net of 1 during December which was as forecast however the placement mix was less favourable. IFA numbers reduced by 4 whereas the more costly residential and semi-independent placements increased by 3 which explained the £0.1m increase in the forecast compared to period 8. This demonstrates how sensitive the forecast is to changes in numbers, weekly costs and placement mix due to the high cost of placements.
49. The assumptions within the forecast are:
- the actual number of children in placement at 31st December 2019 which is 440 (398 March 2019)
 - projected net growth for January 2020 to March 2020 of 5 children
 - projected number of external placements at March 2020 of 445 (398 March 2019) based on past trend data from January 2017 and current and planned initiatives to reduce spend
 - 426 average number of external placements at March 2020 (371 March 2019).
50. There are risks associated with the forecast in relation to external residential placements and social work staffing due to the volatile nature of the demand on these budgets. In view of the high cost of external residential placements the forecast is highly sensitive to changes in e.g. numbers, weekly costs and placement mix. There is a robust monthly monitoring process to track trend data, average costs and actual numbers of children in placement to highlight potential issues as soon as possible.
51. Clayfields is currently forecasting a shortfall against its income target of £1.1m. This is due to a decision by the Children & Families senior leadership team to limit the number of beds available for occupancy because of staffing issues which are currently being addressed. The income forecast previously assumed that all beds would be fully occupied by February 2020. This assumption has been revised with full occupancy expected early in the new financial year. The shortfall will be met from Clayfields' trading reserve which is £1.056m.

Other Options Considered

52. This report is provided as part of the Committee's constitutional requirement to consider performance of all areas within its terms of reference on a quarterly basis. The departmental strategy was agreed on 24 January 2018 and the format and frequency of performance reporting were agreed by the Improvement and Change Sub-Committee on 12 March 2018. Due to the nature of the report no other options were considered appropriate.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

53. This report is provided as part of the Committee's constitutional requirement to consider performance of areas within its terms of reference on a quarterly basis.

Statutory and Policy Implications

54. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

55. There are no direct financial implications arising from the report.

Safeguarding of Children and Adults at Risk Implications

56. Reporting on the performance of services for looked after children and care leavers will better enable the Council to ensure that children are effectively safeguarded.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1) That Committee considers whether there are any actions it requires in relation to the performance information on the Council's services for children and young people for the period 1st October to 31st December 2019.

Nigel Stevenson

Service Director for Finance, Infrastructure & Improvement

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Constitutional Comments (KK 02/03/20)

57. The proposal in this report is within the remit of the Children and Young People's Committee.

Financial Comments (SAS 02/03/20)

58. 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 \(Quarter 2 2019/20\) – services for children and young people: report to Children and Young People's Committee on 16th December 2019.](#)

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

C1356