

Committee: Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Date: February 22nd 2012

Agenda item:

Wards: All Wards

Subject: **Performance Monitoring**

Lead officer: Paul Ballatt (Children, Schools and Families), 020 8545 4066

Lead members: Councillor Maxi Martin, Councillor Peter Walker.

Forward Plan reference number: N/A

Contact officer: Michael Sutherland; 020 8545 4090
michael.sutherland@merton.gov.uk

Recommendations:

A. That the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Panel discuss and comment on the current levels of performance set out in the attached report.

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 To provide the Overview and Scrutiny Panel with regular data on the performance of Children, Schools and Families Department and key partners.

2 DETAILS

2.1 At the Children and Young People Scrutiny Panel meeting on 5th June 2007 it was agreed that the Children, Schools and Families Department would submit a regular performance report on a range of key performance indicators. This would act as a 'health check' for the panel and would be over and above more detailed performance reports relating to specific areas of the Department's activities - eg annual school standards report; safeguarding performance reports – which the Panel would continue to receive.

2.2 This indicator set is subject to review, this report is the first of the 3rd version of the index. It reports data as available at the end of December 2011.

Childrens Social Care

Lines 2 and 3 Initial and Core Assessment completion rates

In quarter 3 there has been a steady rise in completion rates within prescribed timescales for assessments. However performance is unlikely to meet end year targets. In line with national guidance, managers have put in place systems to monitor the quality of assessments in addition to timeliness.

Line 6 % of Children with Child Protection Plans visits due completed on time (Child Seen)

All children subject to CPPs have been visited. We are 1 % below target on this quarter's outturn but should reach target for year end.

Line 7 NI 65 - % of Children that became the subject of a CP Plan for the Second or subsequent time

The rate at the end of quarter 3 was 8%, which is 11 of 134. This rate is expected to be within the target range at the end of the year.

Lines 10 and 11 Number of special guardianship orders and adoptions

By end December 8 CYP achieved permanency (6 adopted, 2 SGO).

The most up to date information (16/2/12), shows there has been 8 adoptions and 6 SGO's, 4 adoptions are pending. So end of year target has been achieved.

Line 14 NI 66 - Children in care cases which were reviewed within required timescales

A small number of LAC reviews have been missed, the majority of which are due to recording issues on the information system (CareFirst). This is being addressed through the CareFirst improvement project. Performance at 96% is well above the national rate of 91%.

Line 15 % of Children in care participating in their reviews

Successful efforts have been made to increase participation levels of children in care at statutory reviews. Performance is above that of last year and approaching target for the current year.

Youth Inclusion

Line 20 Youth Service Participation

The participation rate at the end of December was 997 against an end year target of 1700. Officers expect the annual target to be met through achieving higher participation rates in quarter 4.

Education and Early Years

Line 38 Number of 0-4 year olds accessing childrens centre services from deprived area (IDACI bottom 30%)

End of year performance is expected to exceed target. Recording has improved, there is effective marketing of services across the partnership and improving identification of need. By the end of quarter 3 over 3,000 children (57.9%) from deprived areas had accessed children centre services.

3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

3.1 The Panel's scrutiny work programme is determined by the members of the Panel

4. CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN OR PROPOSED

4.1 The Panel has agreed to consider the performance report on an annual basis

5. TIMETABLE

5.1 None relating to this covering report

6 FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS

6.1 None relating to this covering report

7. LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

7.1 None relating to this covering report

8. HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS

8.1 None relating to this covering report

9. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

9.1 None relating to this covering report

10. RISK MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

10.1 None relating to this covering report

11. APPENDICES – THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ARE TO BE PUBLISHED WITH THIS REPORT AND FORM PART OF THE REPORT •

Appendix 1 Performance data sheet

12 BACKGROUND PAPERS

12.1. None