

Committee: Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Date: 22 March 2016

Agenda item:

Wards: All wards

Subject: Performance monitoring 2015/16 (January 2016)

Lead officer: Paul Ballatt, Assistant Director of Commissioning, Strategy and Performance, Children Schools and Families Department

Lead member(s): Cllr Maxi Martin (Judy Saunders); Cllr Martin Whelton.

Forward Plan reference number: n/a

Contact officer: Naheed Chaudhry, Head of Policy, Planning and Performance.

Recommendations: That the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Panel;

- A. Discuss and comment the current level of performance as at the end of January 2016 (appendix 1)
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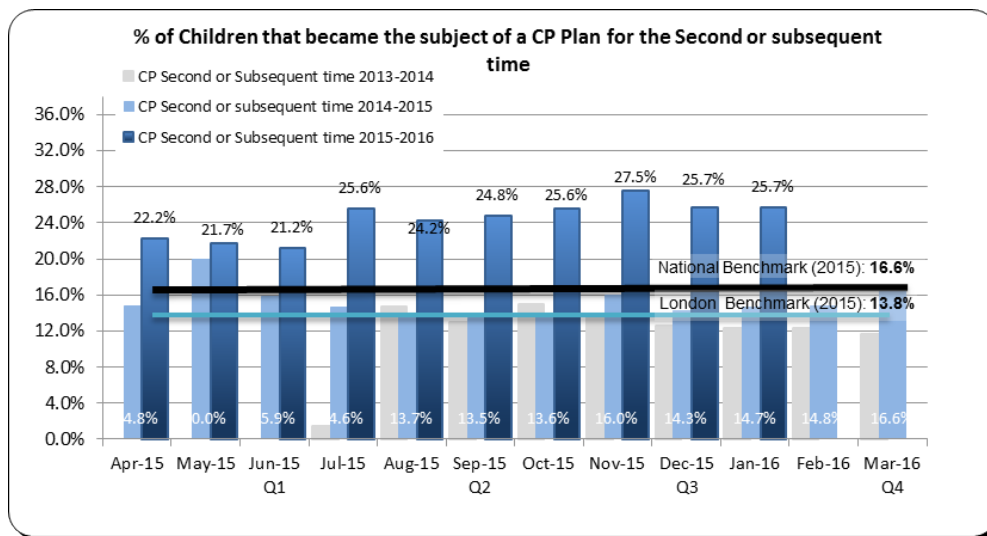
1. **PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 1.1. To provide the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Panel (CYP panel) with a regular update on the performance of the Children, Schools and Families Department and key partners.
- 1.2. Data provided in appendix one is as at the end of January 2016. At the point of publishing this report the February 2016 data had not yet been validated.

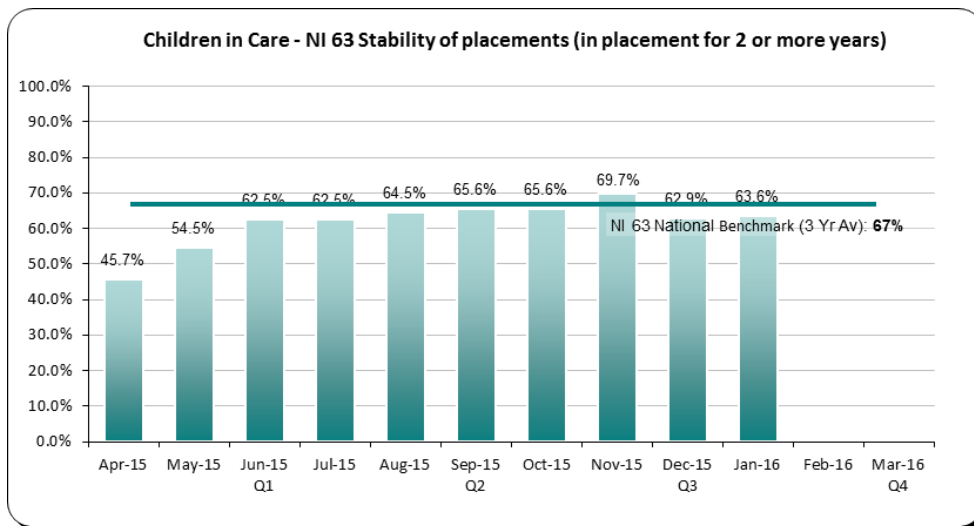
2. **DETAILS**

- 2.1. At a Children and Young People Scrutiny Panel meeting in 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.
- 2.2. This performance monitoring report acts as a 'health check' for the Panel and as such is over and above the more detailed performance reports scheduled to the Panel which relate to specific areas of activities such as the annual Schools Standards report, Corporate Parenting Report, MSCB annual report etc.
- 2.3. This performance index is periodically reviewed and revised by Members. A new dataset was agreed at the January 2015 Scrutiny meeting and has been implemented from April 2015. Officers have also agreed to flag with Members any additional KPIs on which there may be additional management oversight at any given point in the year.
- 2.4. With the exception of those reported below, as at 25 February 2016, no additional KPIs are of particular concern to DMT.
- 2.5. **January 2016 Performance commentary**
- 2.6. Appendix one presents the performance dataset for 2015/16. Comments are provided below on exception only for those indicators reporting as Red or Amber.

- 2.7. **Line 11 Percentage of children that became the subject of a Child Protection Plan for the second or subsequent time – Red.**
- 2.8. Twenty six per cent of children subject to a child protection plan were the subject of a plan for the second or subsequent time. This indicator relates to 44 children with previous plans (new child protection plans started YTD 171).
- 2.9. The indicator has increased significantly in 2015/16 and is higher than Merton's norm. This indicator is also above the national average of 16.6% and above the London average of 13.8% (CIN census 2014/15).
- 2.10. An action plan involving all of the services within CSC and the MSCB is in the process of being finalised. The improvement plan will include the social work training programme for 2016/17 having a focus on improving care planning and the MSCB will run workshops on developing and implementing plans in Core Groups.



- 2.11. **Line 16 Percentage of Looked After Children cases which were reviewed within required timescales (Year to Date) – Red.**
- 2.12. 97% of child children in care cases were reviewed within the required timescale, although below an ambitious target of 100%, this outturn performance is considered to be within thresholds of appropriate levels of performance.
- 2.13. Internal procedures exist to notify the Assistant Director for Children's Social Care and Youth Inclusion when LAC reviews are missed and he is able to seek reassurance that reviews are followed up quickly after. The DfE no longer publish national comparable data for this performance indicator.
- 2.14. **Line 19 Stability of placements of Looked After Children - length of placement – Red.**
- 2.15. This length of placement indicator refers to a small cohort of children under the age of 16 who have been in care for 2 and half years or more and have been in their current placement for 2 years or more (In care for 912+ days and in a placement for 730+).
- 2.16. As at the end of January 64% of this cohort had been in placements for 2 years or more, this relates to 21 of 33 children or young people. After a year of stabilising this indicator and three months performing better than the national average we have just dipped below the benchmark. Each child or young person continues to be tracked and monitored by Heads of Service. Placement stability remains a challenge particularly with the teenage LAC cohort.



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

Appendix 1: CYPP performance index 2015/16 (January 2016)

2. BACKGROUND PAPERS

CSF Performance Management Framework <http://intranet/departments/csf-index/csf-performance.htm>

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