

Committee: Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Date: 17 September 2013

Wards: All wards

Subject: Performance monitoring

Lead officer: Paul Ballatt, Head of Commissioning, Strategy and Performance, Children Schools and Families (020 8545 4066)

Lead member(s): Councillor Maxi Martin; Councillor Martin Whelton.

Forward Plan reference number: n/a

Contact officer: Naheed Chaudhry, Service Manager Policy, Planning and Performance.
Email: naheed.chaudhry@merton.gov.uk; Tel: 020 8545 4090

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

A. Note the current levels of performance as at July 2013 for the reporting year 2013 -14.

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.

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 performance monitoring report would act as a 'health check' for the Panel and would be 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, Safeguarding performance report etc.

2.2. Appendix one presents the performance framework for 2013 -14 comments are provided on exception for those indicators reporting as Red or Amber.

2.3. Children's Social Care

2.4. **Line 2 Percentage of Single Assessments completed within the statutory 45 days (Year to Date) – Red.**

2.5. 65% of Single Assessments have been completed on time since April 2013, this equates to 191 or 292. The timely completion of Single Assessments is under review alongside a review of volumes of Single Assessment currently being undertaken to ensure that thresholds are correctly followed.

2.6. **Line 5 Percentage of Children with Child Protection Plans visits due completed on time – Red.**

2.7. 77% of children subject of a Child Protection Plan were visited within timescale. Half of missed child protection visits were attributable to poor performance from a very small cohort of workers. Action has been taken in relation to this. The other missed visits were caused by a variety of factors including: a change of plan for a

family who were to have moved outside of Merton but the move did not happen and the case was closed too quickly by the team and had to be reopened; social worker being provided incorrect information of when children was returning home from education residential unit; parents and family members obstructing social workers access to children and a young person refusing to meet social worker prior to being placed in secure accommodation. All children subject to child protection plans in the Central Social Work Teams have now been visited.

Education and Early Years

- 2.8. **Line 33 Percentage of Statements, issued within 26 weeks with and without exceptions – Amber.**
- 2.9. 89% of all SEN statements were issued in 26 weeks (with and without exceptions). Statutory assessment completion with exceptions continues to be challenging due to our reliance on health for reports as part of the statutory deadline. Management action is continuing to be taken to improve the outturn our performance remains above the national average for this indicator which is 86% and the London average which is 79% (2012/13 figures).
- 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 have 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 framework 2013-14 July reporting
- 12. BACKGROUND PAPERS**
- 12.1. None.