

Committee: Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Date: 14 January 2014

Agenda item: 7

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

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Recommendations:

A. That the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Panel notes the current level of performance as at November 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. Data provided is as at the end of November 2013, as at the point of publishing this report the December 2013 data had not yet been validated.

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 be received by 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 below on exception only 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. 70% of Single Assessments have been completed on time since April 2013, this equates to 531 of 763. There has been an improvement in performance following a review and management action taken in October 2013. All Single Assessments are now completed by the First Response team in the MASH. In November 90% (43 of 49) of all Single Assessments undertaken were completed on time, further demonstrating a significant improvement in performance and the impact of action taken. National comparator data will not be available until the next DfE Children in

Need (CIN 2013/14) census which will be published following a year end statutory return in July 2014.

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

2.7. 83% of children subject of a Child Protection Plan were visited within timescale. A proportion of missed visits were attributed to performance deficits involving a small number of social workers. Senior management action has been taken to clear past visits and implement improvements in the future. The other missed visits were caused by a variety of factors including parental and family non-compliance - eg obstructing social workers access to children and refusing to meet social workers. Benchmarking data on child protection plan visits is not published.

2.8. **Line 6 Percentage of children that became the subject of a Child Protection Plan for the Second or subsequent time (NI 65) – Red.**

2.9. 14% of children became subject to a child protection plan for the second or subsequent time. This is in line with the national average of 14.9% (CIN 2012/13 data). The current figure is mainly due to six sibling groups becoming subject to a child protection plan for the second or subsequent time with 17 of the 22 children accounted for in these six sibling groups.

2.10. **Line 12 Stability of placements of Children in Care (length of placement) – Amber.**

2.11. This length of placement indicator refers to a small cohort of children, specifically only those children who have been in care for more than 2 and a half years (912 days or more) and who have been in a single placement for 2 years (730 days or more).

2.12. At the end of November 2013, 68% of relevant children had been in a single stable placement lasting 730 days or more. There were various reasons for placement disruptions, including planned placement changes such as “moving into independent living”. This data is in line with the national benchmark of 68% (LAC 903 2011/12). National comparator data for 2012/13 has not yet been published by the DfE.

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 make-up of the performance report on an annual basis.

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

- Appendix 1: Performance framework 2013-14 (November 2013)

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

6.1. None.