

## Committee: Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Panel

**Date: 13 January 2020**

Wards: All

### **Subject: Performance Monitoring Report**

Lead officer: Hannah Doody, Director of Communities and Housing, Interim Director of Children, Schools and Families

Lead member: Councillor Eleanor Stringer, Joint Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children and Education

Contact officer: Karl Mittelstadt, Head of Performance, Policy and Partnerships

#### **Recommendations:**

A. Members of the panel to discuss and comment on the contents of the report

### **1 PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

1.1. This report summarises the performance information for 2020/21, up to 30 November 2020, as set out in the accompanying document, the Children & Young People Overview and Scrutiny Panel Performance Index 2020/21.

### **2 DETAILS**

#### ***Exception Report***

2.1. The following indicators are marked as amber or red.

No	Indicator	Rating	Service Commentary
3	% of Education, Health and Care plans issued within statutory 20 week timescale	R	<p>The ability of the SEN Team to complete new EHC Needs assessments within the 20 week timescales has been impacted upon during the COVID pandemic. We saw a significant increase during the first Lockdown in referrals for EHC Needs assessments combined with the inability to undertake face to face assessments, concerns raised by parents about the assessments being undertaken remotely and the quality of these assessments impacted on finalising plans. Staff within the health sector were redeployed and continue to be which impacts on their capacity to provide their professional advice within the statutory 6 week timescales.</p> <p>These delays mean that the co-production planning meetings are delayed and the</p>

			<p>SEN Team also found consulting with education settings difficult which results in further delays in finalising plans with a setting named within Section I of the Plan.</p> <p>The SEN Team are now finalising plans naming type of setting in order to improve timeliness however the work to consult with schools and then reopen the plan to amend Section I increases workload.</p>
16	Average number of weeks taken to complete Care proceedings against a national target of 26 weeks	R	<p>Data about court proceedings is provided by Cafcass.</p> <p>The duration of court proceedings is a matter for the court service. LB has no influence over this process. Covid has had a significant impact on court proceedings and timings. This is a national issue.</p>
22	Number of in-house foster carers recruited	R	This aspect is covered in the departmental update report.

2.2. The following indicator, whilst not rated 'red' will be of particular note to the scrutiny panel:

40	Average total caseload for social workers as at end of month	<p>Previously reported for children subject of CPP and children in care only which were inaccurate as CSC social workers hold case responsibility for children in a range of different intervention groups.</p> <p>Data since September 2020 includes all children and young persons with open cases and all allocated workers, based on an open cases report.</p> <p>The increasing numbers of children in the CSC systems are reflected in the increase in the average case load figures. However, providing an average number masks significant discrepancies across the different CSC service areas. In some services, average case loads are above optimum levels, with social workers responsible for 20-25. Management actions are in progress to address the caseload pressures including recruitment activity to fill vacancies; use of the additional resource offered by the Social Workers in Schools pilot and mobilisation of an additional temporary social work team.</p>
----	--	---

***Amendments, Corrections and Data Caveats***

- 2.3. Current system configuration and data recording issues in our social care reporting system Mosaic have an impact on our ability to report performance against some of the indicators effectively. This does not mean that the department is unable to monitor performance.
- 2.4. We are currently not able to report accurately against the following indicators:

<b>Indicator Number</b>	<b>Descriptor</b>	<b>Commentary</b>
8	% of quorate attendance at child protection conferences	Data reporting is currently unreliable. The way in which Mosaic is currently configured does not allow an easy analysis of quoracy.
10	% of Children subject of a CP Plan who had a CP visit within timescales in the month	Data is provided for cases open as at the end of the month. We are currently unable to provide data on the timeliness of visits over a particular period of time.
23	NEW - Number of Looked After Children who were adopted (YTD)	We are aligning this to quarterly updates provided to the Regional Adoption and Special Guardianship Leadership Board (ASGLB). Figures will be available for the next meeting.
23a	Number of Looked After Children for whom agency Special Guardianship Orders were granted (YTD)	We are aligning this to quarterly updates provided to the Regional Adoption and Special Guardian Leadership Board (ASGLB). Figures will be available for the next meeting.

### **3 FOR DECISION**

3.1. No items for decision

### **4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

4.1. No specific implications for this report

### **5 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN OR PROPOSED**

5.1. None for this report

### **6 TIMETABLE**

6.1. Not applicable for this report

### **7 FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS**

7.1. None

### **8 LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS**

8.1. None

### **9 HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS**

9.1. None

### **10 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS**

10.1. None

**11 RISK MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

11.1. None

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

- Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Panel Performance Index 2020/21

**13 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

13.1. None

This page is intentionally left blank