

TITLE	Children's Services Performance Indicators
FOR CONSIDERATION BY	Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 7 July 2014
WARD	None Specific
STRATEGIC DIRECTOR	Judith Ramsden, Strategic Director of Children's Services

OUTCOME / BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY

Children's Services performance indicators underpin the council's priorities and principles to focus on every child reaching their potential and looking after the vulnerable.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Children's Service performance indicators be noted.

SUMMARY OF REPORT

The timing of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee means that the latest indicators available for reporting this cycle are the full suite of indicators reported at the end of quarter 4, in March 2014, plus some social care indicators which have been updated for May as part of the monthly cycle.

The only indicator which is rated red is 6 Safeguarding: The percentage of referrals which are repeat referrals to Children's Social Care. We have investigated the re-referral and one of the main issues behind the inflated figure is not about family needs not being assessed or met well; but a by-product of the streamlining of our processes which occurred last year (in line with national thinking); namely that we stopped recording and processing 'contacts' and 'referrals' separately. We are confident, having investigated this, that the re-referral rate (a proxy measure for individual children's needs not being met) will reduce and come back within expected levels over the next 6 months.

Background

A set of information on performance indicators is provided to the Corporate Leadership Team and the Executive on a regular basis. A copy of the most recent reports providing information for Children's Services is attached.

Analysis of Issues

The only indicator which is rated red for May 2014 is 6 Safeguarding: The percentage of referrals which are repeat referrals to Children’s Social Care. We have investigated the re referral and one of the main issues behind the inflated figure is not about family needs not being assessed or met well; but a by- product of the streamlining of our processes which occurred last year (in line with national thinking); namely that we stopped recording and processing ‘contacts’ and ‘referrals’ separately . We are confident, having investigated this, that the re-referral rate (a proxy measure for individual children’s needs not being met) will reduce and come back within expected levels over the next 6 months .

Looking at the March 2014 outturn results:

Indicators 10 and 11, measure the attainment gap at KS2 and KS4 (GCSEs) between children eligible for free school meals and those who are not.

National data on narrowing the gap for pupils at KS2 L4 including reading, writing and maths.

	2013			2012		
	Non - FSM	FSM	FSM gap	Non - FSM	FSM	FSM gap
Wokingham	83	44	39	80	47	33
England	79	60	19	78	59	19

KS2 exams changed between 2012 and 2013, so the standard measure changed from “English & Maths” to “Reading, Writing and Arithmetic”. Against this new measure Wokingham’s free school meal pupils performed less well in 2013 than 2012, increasing the gap by 6 percentage points.

National data on narrowing the gap for pupils with 5 GCSEs at A* - C including maths and English.

	2013			2012		
	Non - FSM	FSM	FSM gap	Non - FSM	FSM	FSM gap
Wokingham	73.5	31.0	42.5	67.8	26.2	41.6
England	64.8	38.1	26.7	62.8	36.5	26.3

Although Wokingham’s free school meals pupils improved their GCSE performance by 4.8 percentage points since last year, the performance gap widened as other pupils’ performance increased by a greater amount.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATION

The Council faces severe financial challenges over the coming years as a result of the austerity measures implemented by the Government and subsequent reductions to public sector funding. It is estimated that Wokingham Borough Council will be required to make budget reductions in excess of £20m over the next three years and all Executive decisions should be made in this context.

	How much will it Cost/ (Save)	Is there sufficient funding – if not quantify the Shortfall	Revenue or Capital?
Current Financial Year (Year 1)			
Next Financial Year (Year 2)			
Following Financial Year (Year 3)			

Other financial information relevant to the Recommendation/Decision
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None

Cross-Council Implications (how does this decision impact on other Council services and priorities?)

Reasons for considering the report in Part 2

List of Background Papers

None

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Date 25 th June 2014	Version No. 1
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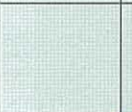



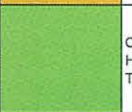
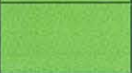
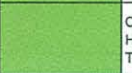
Balanced Scorecard January Collection Sheet

Key

 indicates that actual scores and traffic light status are not due for this report

Sparklines

March 2014 Overview & Scrutiny data

No	Indicator	Frequency of Reporting	Comparator Period	Baseline Performance	Target 2013/14	High or Low score is good	March 2014 Score	March RAG	2013/4 indicative result	2013/4 RAG	Exec Member	Strat Director	Indicator description
Table 1 Children													
Keeping Children Safe													
5	Safeguarding: Children subject to a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time	Quarterly switched to monthly reporting after 1st qtr	Previous quarter	See note	12 to 14%	Low	0.0%		11.0%		Charlotte Haitham Taylor	Judith Ramsden	
6	Safeguarding: % of referrals that are repeat referrals to Children's Social Care	Quarterly switched to monthly reporting after 1st qtr	Previous quarter	See note	20 to 23%	Low	41.8%		29.7%		Charlotte Haitham Taylor	Judith Ramsden	The rate of re-referrals may be linked to changes to the pathway followed to access services for children and preparatory work on eligibility thresholds. An audit is now taking place to investigate our new practices and application of the agreed levels of need.
7	Safeguarding: % of assessments completed within 45 working days	Quarterly switched to monthly reporting after 1st qtr	Previous quarter	New indicator	75 to 85% (Focus on timeliness and quality)	High	87.5%		90.9%		Charlotte Haitham Taylor	Judith Ramsden	
7a	Safeguarding: % of initial assessments completed within 10 working days	Quarterly switched to monthly reporting after 1st qtr	Previous quarter	See note	76 to 85% (Focus on timeliness and quality)	High			86.8%		Charlotte Haitham Taylor	Judith Ramsden	The annual result is 86.8%. As no new initial assessments have been started during the quarter, no data has been provided for this indicator.
7b	Safeguarding: % of core assessments completed within 35 working days	Quarterly switched to monthly reporting after 1st qtr	Previous quarter	See note	77 to 85% (Focus on timeliness and quality)	High			71.9%		Charlotte Haitham Taylor	Judith Ramsden	The annual result is 71.9%. As no new assessments have been started, no further data will be provided for this indicator.
8	Looked after children: % of children who have had three or more placements within the year	Quarterly switched to monthly reporting after 1st qtr	Previous quarter	See note	7 to 9%	Low	8.0%		8.0%		Charlotte Haitham Taylor	Judith Ramsden	
9	Looked after children: % of children achieving permanence	Quarterly switched to monthly reporting	Previous quarter	See note	16 to 18%	High	29.3%		29.3%		Charlotte Haitham Taylor	Judith Ramsden	
Keeping Children Safe Indicator Commentary													

Io	Indicator	Frequency of Reporting	Comparator Period	Baseline Performance	Target 2013/14	High or Low score is good	March 2014 Score	March RAG	2013/4 Indicative result	2013/4 RAG	Exec Member	Strat Director	Indicator description
Narrowing the Gap													
10	Key Stage 2 attainment: The gap between the performance of those children eligible for Free School Meals and their peers	Annual	Previous year	Summer 2012 FSM 47% Non FSM 80% NTG 33pp	Gap of around 25 percentage points.	Low			Summer 2013 FSM 44% Non FSM 83% NTG 39pp		Charlotte Haitham Taylor	Judith Ramsden	The DfE has re-worked the summer 2012 results to better match the summer 2013 exam arrangements for Reading, Writing and Maths. This data has been presented here. A priority focus of work in the 2013/14 academic year relates to the LA monitoring the effective use of schools' pupil premium finances in order to reduce the gap between the performance of those pupils eligible for FSM and those not.
11	Key Stage 4 attainment: The gap between the performance of those children eligible for Free School Meals and their peers	Annual	Previous year	Summer 2012 FSM 26.2% Non FSM 67.8% NTG 41.6pp	Gap of around 35 percentage points.	Low			Summer 2013 FSM 31.0% Non FSM 73.5% NTG 42.5pp		Charlotte Haitham Taylor	Judith Ramsden	The DfE published their final GCSE results in late January. Although the GCSE results of Wokingham's FSM children has improved, the gap was larger than in summer 2012 as the performance of non-FSM pupils had also increased. There were 113 FSM pupils in summer 2013.
12	% of young people who are classified as Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)	Quarterly	Corresponding quarter for previous year	See note	Below 4.5% at year end	Low	3.0%		3.0%		Charlotte Haitham Taylor	Judith Ramsden	This is the lowest the NEET percentage has been in Wokingham for several years. The validity of the figure is supported by an equally low "Not Known" rate of 2.9% meaning that we don't have high numbers of NEET young people hidden in the Not Known group. Wokingham is performing well against the South East as a whole which, at the end of February, had 5.1% of its young people NEET and England which had 5.3%
13	% of young people in vulnerable groups[5] who are classified as Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)	Quarterly	Corresponding quarter for previous year	13.7%	Cohort too small – should simply aim for a reduction over the year	Low	7.9%		7.9%		Charlotte Haitham Taylor	Judith Ramsden	7.9% of the vulnerable cohort was NEET at the end of March 2014. In the same quarter last year 13.7% of the vulnerable cohort was NEET
14	Youth Offending: first time entrants to the Youth Justice System	Quarterly	Previous quarter	Baseline 2012/13 Q1 - 8, Q2 - 4, Q3 - 7, Q4 - 10	Reduction on previous year (nationally subject to revised definition for 2013/14)	Low	0		23		Charlotte Haitham Taylor	Judith Ramsden	During 2013/4 there were 23 first time entrants to Youth Justice, compared to 29 in 2012/3.
15	Youth Offending: rate of re-offending	Quarterly	Previous quarter	2012/13 24.3%	Reduction on previous year	Low	30.0%		21.2%		Charlotte Haitham Taylor	Judith Ramsden	Baseline: Last completed 12 month cohort was 27/111 = 24.3%. The 2013/14 financial year cohort is 66 young people. Q1 - 11.5% Q2 30.0% Q3 25% Q4 30% full year result is 21.2%
Narrowing the Gap Indicator Commentary													

No	Indicator	Frequency of Reporting	Comparator Period	Baseline Performance	Target 2013/14	High or Low score is good	March 2014 Score	March RAG	2013/4 Indicative result	2013/4 RAG	Exec Member	Strat Director	Indicator description
Opportunity for All													
16	Key Stage 2 attainment: % of pupils achieving Level 4 in both English and mathematics	Annual (two updates – provisional and final)	Previous year	Summer 2012 Average all pupils 79%	Average all pupils 90% (Using previous measure)	High			Summer 2013 Average all pupils 81%		Charlotte Haitham Taylor	Judith Ramsden	The DfE has re-worked the summer 2012 results to better match the summer 2013 exam arrangements for Reading, Writing and Maths. This data has been presented here. Under this measure, the English average was 75% in both 2012 and 2013
17	Key Stage 4 attainment: % of pupils achieving 5+A*-C GCSEs (inc English and mathematics)	Annual (two updates – provisional and final)	Previous year	Summer 2012 Average all pupils 65.6%	Average all pupils 70%	High			Summer 2013 Average all pupils 70.6%		Charlotte Haitham Taylor	Judith Ramsden	
18	Raising standards in schools: % of schools in Ofsted categories of good or better	Quarterly	Previous quarter	Dec 2012 published data, (43 schools) 72.9%	78% (46 schools)	High	80.7%				Charlotte Haitham Taylor	Judith Ramsden	The latest data from Ofsted was published in March 2014 and covers inspection reports published before December 2013.
18a	Raising standards in schools: % of primary schools in Ofsted categories of good or better	Quarterly	Previous quarter		78% (40 schools)	High	78.0%				Charlotte Haitham Taylor	Judith Ramsden	
18b	Raising standards in schools: % of secondary schools in Ofsted categories of good or better	Quarterly	Previous quarter		78% (6 schools)	High	100.0%				Charlotte Haitham Taylor	Judith Ramsden	
Opportunity for All Indicator Commentary													

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No	Indicator	Frequency of Reporting	Comparator Period	Baseline Performance	Target 2013/14	High or Low score is good	March 2014 Score	March RAG	2013/14 Indicative result	2013/4 RAG	Exec Member	Strat Director	Indicator description
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May 2014 Overview & Scrutiny data

Table 1 Children													
Keeping Children Safe													
		Frequency of Reporting	Comparator Period	Baseline Performance	Target 2013/14	High or Low score is good	April	April RAG	May	May RAG	Exec Member	Strat Director	Indicator description
5	Safeguarding: Children subject to a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time	Quarterly switched to monthly reporting	Previous quarter	See note	12 to 14%	Low	0%		0%		Charlotte Haltham Taylor	Judith Ramsden	
6	Safeguarding: % of referrals that are repeat referrals to Children's Social Care	Quarterly switched to monthly reporting	Previous quarter	See note	20 to 23%	Low	33.0%		54.5%		Charlotte Haltham Taylor	Judith Ramsden	We have investigated the re referral and one of the main issues behind the inflated figure is not about family needs not being assessed or met well; but a by-product of the streamlining of our processes which occurred last year (in line with national thinking); namely that we stopped recording and processing 'contacts' and 'referrals' separately. We are confident, having investigated this, that the re-referral rate (a proxy measure for individual children's needs not being met) will reduce and come back within expected levels over the next 6 months.
7	Safeguarding: % of assessments completed within 45 working days	Quarterly switched to monthly reporting	Previous quarter	New indicator	75 to 85% (Focus on timeliness and quality)	High	100%		97.4%		Charlotte Haltham Taylor	Judith Ramsden	
8	Looked after children: % of children who have had three or more placements within the year	Quarterly switched to monthly reporting	Previous quarter	See note	7 to 9%	Low	9.1%		5.1%		Charlotte Haltham Taylor	Judith Ramsden	
9	Looked after children: % of children achieving permanence	Quarterly switched to monthly reporting	Previous quarter	See note	16 to 18%	High	1.3%		1.3%		Charlotte Haltham Taylor	Judith Ramsden	This indicator builds cumulatively during the year, so no RAG rating has been provided. There are currently no indications that the annual target will be missed.
Keeping Children Safe Indicator Commentary													