

TITLE	Children's Services Performance Indicators
FOR CONSIDERATION BY	Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 13 September 2016
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 formal reporting this cycle are the Quarterly indicators reported at the end of June 2016.

Background

A set of information on performance indicators is provided to the Corporate Leadership Team and the Executive on a regular basis. The most recent report, providing information for Children's Services covering the quarter to June 2016, is provided as Appendix A to this report.

Analysis of Issues

There is one indicator this quarter which is rated amber for performance, and four which are red.

Amber

1. % Looked After Children living within 20 miles of Berkshire West

Our aim is to place more children closer to their home, reducing the disruptions they experience when they are placed in care. Whilst this is an improving picture, further

work is needed to bring Wokingham Local Authority in line with national performance. Work is being undertaken to increase recruitment of local foster carers and ensure that out of area emergency placements are only used in exceptional circumstances. Almost all children in long term placements out of the borough have complex needs requiring specialist support.

Red

1. % CP Visits due in the period which were on-time (within 10 days of the previous visit).

In quarter 1, the majority of visits carried out over 10 days after the previous visit were less than a week late. 90% of visits took place within 15 days of the previous visit. In most cases where the visit was late this was due to a previously attempted unannounced visit within timescale where the family were not at home or on holiday.

Visit timeliness is reviewed weekly by Team and Service Managers. Late visits are scrutinised by managers and any concerns escalated as appropriate.

2. % Secondary Schools with a Current Ofsted rating of “good” or better.

Deterioration in performance for this indicator was due to one secondary school, The Forest School, receiving a “Requiring Improvement” judgement at inspection this quarter (previously judged “Good”).

3. % Special Schools with a current Ofsted rating of “good” or better.

Deterioration in performance for this indicator was due to one special school, Southfield School, receiving an “Inadequate” judgement at inspection this quarter (previously judged “Good”).

4. % Children who attend a Wokingham school (Primary, Secondary or Special) who are at a school with an Ofsted rating of “good” or better.

This indicator has been adversely affected by the size of The Forest School and the smaller size of four schools which have improved their Ofsted judgements. The LA prioritises schools for intervention and improvement according to need rather than size. The Forest is an academy, and although it is not formally accountable to WBC, the LA takes an interest in improvements.

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)	Not applicable		
Next Financial Year (Year 2)	Not applicable		
Following Financial Year (Year 3)	Not applicable		

Other financial information relevant to the Recommendation/Decision

None

Cross-Council Implications

n/a

List of Background Papers

None

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