

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Children's Services Performance Indicators</b>
<b>FOR CONSIDERATION BY</b>	Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 17 January 2017
<b>WARD</b>	None Specific
<b>STRATEGIC DIRECTOR</b>	Judith Ramsden, Director of People 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 September 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 September 2016, is provided as Appendix A to this report.

## **Analysis of Issues**

This quarter there are four indicators rated red for performance, three amber and two green.

## **Red**

- 1. % referrals in 16/17 which are repeat referrals within 12 months of a previous referral to Children's Social Care.**

This indicator helps us to establish whether a case has been closed too quickly

resulting in a re-referral of a child or young person for further support. During quarter 2, only one re-referred case raised discussion about the appropriateness of the approach taken following the first referral. In this case, evidence supported the initial approach being reasonable.

The number of re-referrals in each month of the quarter did not vary widely (July: 17; August: 21; September:18) however the low total number of referrals received in August (52) resulted in a relatively high % of re-referrals being recorded for that month (40.4%). Performance for September was 20% (18 re-referrals of 90 referrals) which is better than the target.

**2. % Children who became subject of a Child Protection Plan (CPP) who are subject to a CPP for a second or subsequent time within 24 months.**

In quarter 2 a large family (four children) became subject to a Child Protection Plan for a second time in circumstances which could not have been avoided.

**3. % Care Proceedings completed in 15/16 within 26 weeks of application.**

In quarter 2, four care proceedings were completed over the 26 week timescale due to further assessment being required. The timetable was controlled by the Court and not the Local Authority.

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

Work is being undertaken to increase the recruitment of local foster carers and out of area emergency placements are only used in exceptional circumstances if there are no other options available locally. Almost all children who are in long term placements out of borough have exceptional needs. We are actively working with units to stabilise the children to reintegrate them to the local area as soon as they are able and ensure it meets a child's need.

**Amber**

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

Performance for this indicator is improved compared to Q1 and 91.4% of all visits took place within 15 working days of the previous visit. Delays between 10 and 15 days mainly related to attempted unannounced visits where the family were not at home. Visits are reviewed by Team and Service Managers weekly and late reviews are scrutinised by managers with any concerns being escalated as appropriate.

**2. % Primary Schools with a Current Ofsted Rating of "Good" or better.**

This indicator is unchanged from Q1. No inspection reports for primary schools were released in Q2.

**3. % Special Schools with a current Ofsted rating of "Good" or better.**

This indicator is unchanged from Q1. No inspection reports for special schools were released in Q2.

## Green

1. % Secondary Schools with a current Ofsted rating of “Good” or better; and
2. % Children who attend a Wokingham school (Primary, Secondary or Special) who are at a school with an Ofsted rating of “Good” or better.

Both indicators showed improvement in Q2 following the publication of the Ofsted Inspection judgement for Oakbank School which was “Good” (previously Requiring Improvement).

## 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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