

TITLE	Children's Services Performance Indicators
FOR CONSIDERATION BY	Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 20 th June 2017
WARD	None Specific
STRATEGIC DIRECTOR	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 Services 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 March 2017.

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 March 2017, is provided as Appendix A to this report.

Analysis of Issues

In 16/17 Q4 there are two red indicators, one amber indicator and eight green indicators.

Red

- 1. % 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.**

Performance against this indicator is monitored to ensure that children's needs are met, and that a previous child protection plan has not been ended prematurely.

In quarter 4, four children came back onto a CPP:

- Three children from one family who had an unanticipated change in family circumstances; and
- One child, who has appropriately been taken into pre-proceedings.

(Note that the number of children who came back onto a plan in Q4 (4) is less than Q3 (7) – this indicator should be considered in the context of fluctuating numbers of children coming to on to a CPP each quarter).

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

This figure will continue to be below target until local provision and capacity is developed, and new entrants into care are placed locally. It would not be in the best interests of already settled children for them to be moved to local placements in order to meet the target. All children living beyond 20 miles are placed through independent fostering agencies or in residential settings. Of those children in fostering placements, 75.5% are placed within 20 miles of Berkshire West. Of those children in non-fostering placements, 7.1% are placed within 20 miles of Berkshire West.

Amber

1. % Secondary Schools with a Current Ofsted Rating of “Good” or better.

This indicator is unchanged from Q3. No inspection reports for secondary schools were released in Q4.

Green

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

Repeat referrals help us to understand whether services offered to children and their families were appropriately targeted in response to the previous referral. Children may need to re-access services for a new, unanticipated reason. Exploration of every re-referral is carried out to monitor effectiveness. The Head of Service is satisfied that all re-referrals in Q4 were unavoidable and appropriate.

2. % Care Proceedings Completed in 16/17 within 26 weeks of application.

All care proceedings completed in Q4 were within 26 weeks of application.

3. Adoption: Children placed in the financial year to date – average number of days between entering care and placement.

Performance continues to exceed the target.

4. Adoption: Children matched in the financial year to date – average number of

days between Placement Order and formal match.

Current data shows strong performance.

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

This indicator shows improvement in Q4. 98% of all visits in Q4 took place within 15 working days (compared to 94% in Q3). The Head of Service is assured that we have an account of all the children not seen within 15 working days, and the reasons for this, and that children are seen/safe.

6. % Primary Schools with a Current Ofsted Rating of “Good” or better.

Performance has improved in Q4 by 2% compared to Q3. One inspection outcome was published in Q4:

Lamb’s Lane – Good, previously RI

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

In Q4, performance for this indicator was 100% due to the closure of Southfield School, which has been replaced by Northern House School. Northern House School opened on the same site in January 2017, and has yet to be inspected.

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

Performance has improved in Q4 by 1%. The inspection outcome for 1 school has been published in Q4:

Lambs Lane – Good, previously RI.

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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