

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Children's Services Performance Indicators</b>
<b>FOR CONSIDERATION BY</b>	Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 12 <sup>th</sup> September 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 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 June 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 June 2017, is provided as Appendix A to this report.

## **Analysis of Issues**

In 17/18 Q1 there are three red indicators, four amber indicators and six green indicators.

## **Red**

- 1. % Children in Care at the end of the period who were in a placement more than 20 miles from their home (excluding unaccompanied asylum seeking children, children placed with parents and children in receipt of short breaks support).**

This is a new indicator for 2017/18. Performance is currently below target, and will be until local capacity is developed and new entrants into care are consistently placed locally. We would not move already settled children to local placements in order to meet the target.

Another new indicator in this set tracks placement of children coming into care, and in Q1, almost all children entering care have been placed within 20 miles of their home.

**2. Permanency 1: % of children leaving care in the period who achieved permanence (adopted, returned home or a special guardianship order is granted).**

All the 9 children who did not achieve permanence are care leavers who reached their 18<sup>th</sup> Birthday in Q1. Of these, 4 are “staying put” with their foster carers, 3 moved into independent living accommodation and 2 moved into Residential Care commissioned by Adults’ Social Care.

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

97.4% of visits took place within 15 working days of the previous visit. Where Social Workers are having difficulty accessing children, all appropriate and proportionate steps are taken to safeguard the child in accordance with the level of risk and the child’s plan. In quarter 1, difficulties were experienced securing visits with two families. The authority is now in legal proceedings to ensure the welfare of the children.

**Amber**

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

Performance is improving, and as for the 20 miles from home indicator, performance will continue to be below target until local provision and capacity is developed and new entrants into care are consistently placed locally.

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

One school achieved a first inspection outcome of Good: Wheatfield Primary School. However, the % figure has stayed the same.

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

One inspection outcome published in Q1: Embrook Senior School: Good, previously 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.**

No change in % in quarter 1 despite one school achieving a first inspection outcome of Good (Wheatfield Primary School has only 60 pupils).

## Green

1. **% Referrals in 16/17 that 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 Q1 were unavoidable and appropriate.

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

Following a sample review of these cases in spring 2017, a more robust approach is being taken where PLO is being considered as opposed to another period of child protection planning.

3. **% Children who became subject to a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time ever.**

Improved performance due to implementation of more robust approach described above.

4. **Children who entered Care in the period who were placed more than 20 miles from their home.**

In line with our target of placing all new entrants to care within 20 miles from their home, only one child was placed in an emergency placement over 20 miles from their home for one night. They were then moved to a placement in the Wokingham area the following day.

5. **Permanency 2: % of children currently in non-residential care who have been in care for more than three months, who are in a permanent placement.**

Current data shows strong performance.

6. **% Special Schools with a current Ofsted rating of "good" or better**

Performance remains 100%. No inspection outcomes were published in Q1.

## **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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