

Agenda Item 76.

TITLE	Children's Services Performance Indicators
FOR CONSIDERATION BY	Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 23 February 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 December 2015.

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 December 2015, is provided as Appendix A to this report.

Analysis of Issues

Two indicators were reported red and two indicators were reported amber in Quarter 3.

Following a data release by the DfE, we now know that the percentage of disadvantaged pupils at Wokingham schools achieving level 4 or above at Key Stage 2 in 2015 was 62%. In comparison, 88% of all other pupils at Wokingham schools achieved level 4 or above. This means a gap of 26%, which is above the statistical neighbour gap of 18.7% and also above our target of a 20% gap or lower. This is one of two red indicators in Quarter 3.

The second red indicator is the percentage of children who are currently subject to a Child Protection Plan (CPP) who are subject to a CPP for a second or subsequent time within 24 months. Quarter 3 performance was 14% against a target of 3 – 7%, which was due to significant changes in the circumstances of two families.

The percentage of looked after children living within 20 miles of their home was 67.5% in Quarter 3; an improvement from 64.3% in Quarter 2. Despite this improvement, this indicator has been downgraded from green to amber due to the incorrect rating being applied in Quarter 2.

The second amber indicator is the percentage of Secondary Schools with a current Ofsted rating of “good” or better. There has been no change in performance from Quarter 2, and the indicator remains at 89%. There is one Secondary school which has been judged by Ofsted as requiring improvement. It is a recently established free school which is reported to be on a positive improvement trajectory.

Finally, following a further data release by the DfE, we now know that the percentage of disadvantaged pupils at Wokingham schools achieving 5 or more GCSEs at grades A*-C (including English and maths) in 2015 was 41.5%. The percentage of all other pupils at Wokingham schools achieving the same was 71.6%, which means a gap of 30%. This compares favourably to our statistical neighbours’ gap of 31.8%, and ensures the target of a 30% gap or lower was met. This indicator is rated green.

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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