

## **Children & Young People Overview & Scrutiny Committee**

**6<sup>th</sup> January 2015**

### **One Organisational Plan Mid-Year Progress Report:**

**April – September 2014**

#### **Recommendations**

That the Children & Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee

- 1.) Consider the OOP Mid-Year Progress Report and background information relevant to its remit.
- 2.) Considers and comments on the additional commentary provided in section 3 of the report and the detailed performance information for children & young people.
- 3.) Considers and comments on areas where performance is positive or falling short of target and the remedial action that is being undertaken in areas of underperformance in relation to children & young people.

#### **1.0 Background**

- 1.1 This report presents the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee with the summary of performance in relation to both the delivery of the One Organisational Plan and the delivery of Children and Young People's services at the mid-year point. Wider commentary is also provided against the key themes in Children and Young People's services.

#### **2.0 Overall Delivery of the One Organisational Plan**

- 2.1 The One Organisational Plan Quarterly Progress Report for April – September 2014 (Mid-Year) was considered by Cabinet on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2014 and a full copy of the report to Cabinet is attached to this report.
- 2.2 The following Business Unit Background Information relevant to the remit of this Committee previously presented in each of the Group Rooms in support of the Cabinet report is also attached and covers the following services and areas:

- Strategic Commissioning
- Early Help & Targeted Support
- Safeguarding
- Education & Learning

### **3.0 Children & Young People – Additional Commentary**

3.1 This section provides specific commentary on current performance issues relating to Children & Young People's services.

3.2 **Support for Looked After young people to remain in placement** - in the first half of 2014-15 Targeted Support for Young People has successfully closed three cases for Looked After young people following intensive support to maintain a stable placement. At the end of the first half of 2014-15 Targeted Support for Young People continued to work with eighteen Looked After young people and thirty one young people At Risk of being Looked After. It is anticipated that a number of those young people will benefit from a placement move and therefore the overall forecast for the year end has been reduced to 75% against an initial target of 80%.

3.3 **Number of CAFs initiated per 10,000 children (0-17)** - with an increased focus on Early Help a new measure has been introduced this year to understand the take up of the Common Assessment Framework. A high target rate of 84.4 per 10,000 children has been set to maintain the usage level against the baseline for 2013/14. Although the year to date is showing a cumulative figure of 29.8, which is below half of the year end target, this was expected due to the typically low initiation rates during the school summer holidays. Quarter 3 is historically busier and it is fully expected that the target will be reached or potentially exceeded by year end.

3.4 **Children's Centres Ofsted inspection** - an ambitious target of 100% of centres rated 'good' or 'outstanding' was set for Warwickshire's Children's Centres against a baseline of 87.5%. Although this improved slightly in quarter one, an inspection of Rugby Rural group in quarter 2 received a judgement of 'requires improvement'. This has dropped the current position to 85.2%. It is therefore projected that the year end figure will be 86.9% against the target of 100%. Due to the remodelling of the management of Children's Centres into groups from November 2014, future inspections are likely to be group inspections. It will therefore be necessary to revisit the targets to reflect the new group structure.

3.5 **Initial assessments for disabled children** - timescales for undertaking initial assessments for disabled children are not being met in the majority of cases and we are currently forecast to miss our year end target (forecast 50% against a target of 65% within timescales). This has been affected by a significant restructure within the Integrated Disability Service Social Care team during the first half of 2014/15. The proportion of assessments within timescale is improving and it is expected that this will continue to improve throughout the second half of the year.

- 3.6 **Number of Looked After Children per 10,000 population** is currently forecast to be a rate of 62 per 10,000 children, which is the same as 2013/14, against the target for this year of 57. This equates to approximately 56 more looked after children than was targeted. The trend was for reducing numbers of looked after children between October 2013 and April 2014 but since April we have seen the numbers begin to rise again. Some of the increase is due to young children coming into care through the courts, arising from safeguarding concerns.
- 3.7 **Number of children who are subject of a Child Protection Plan (CPP) per 10,000 population** is currently forecast on target with a rate of 45 per 10,000 children compared to 47 in 2013/14. This reflects the increased focus on reducing the numbers of children with Child Protection Plans by investing in evidence based early intervention programmes and revising our systems and processes to support families more effectively.
- 3.8 **Percentage of Looked After Children (LAC) aged under 16 who have been looked after continuously for at least 2.5 years, who were living in the same placement for a least 2 years, or are placed for adoption** is an indicator that measures placement stability. We are currently forecast to be under the target, with 63% of children living in the same placement for at least two years, which is the same as the 2013/14 outturn, against a target of 65%. The pressure on availability of foster care placements remains a limiting factor on making progress overall in placement stability.
- 3.9 **Children in Need rate per 10,000 CYP population (including Children in Care and Children Protection)** is currently forecast to be on target. We have been undertaking work on our front door and thresholds and have revised our "Thresholds for Services" document which we anticipate will help to ensure only children who need to become a CiN case receive services.

**Background Papers:**

None

**Appendices:**

Appendix A: One Organisational Plan Quarterly Progress Report  
April – September 2014 (submitted to Cabinet on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2014).

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