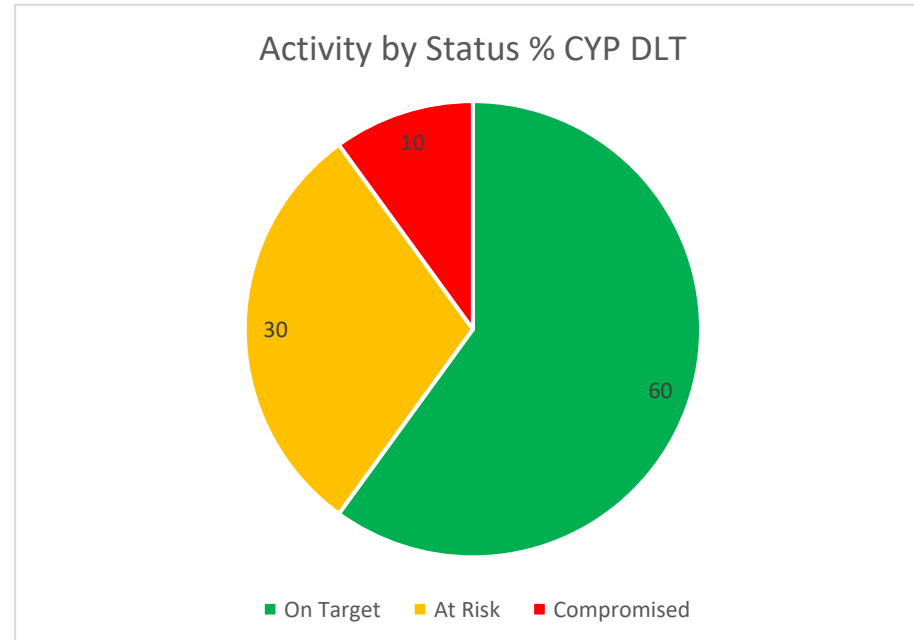


1. Children & Young People OSC Progress on the Council Delivery Plan Quarter 1

1.1 Key Insights for Quarter 1 2024/25

Of the 61 activities in the Council Delivery Plan 10 are attributable to the Children & Young People Directorate. Of these, 60% of activities are On Track, with 40% At Risk or Compromised. It is these actions which are reported on below on an exception basis.



1.2 Deliver our Child Friendly Warwickshire strategy - heard, safe, healthy, skilled, happy children.

Activity	Status	Commentary
Increase the number of Warwickshire foster carers and open the agreed programme of Children's Homes, enabling us to provide local placements for children whilst stabilising and reducing costs.	At risk	WCC continue to run a very proactive recruitment campaign in what is a very competitive market. 173 children are placed with WCC foster carers and 118 with connected persons carers in comparison to 178 being placed with independent foster carers.
Implement a range of agreed initiatives, to further establish an integrated multi-agency service, following the Government's new children's social care strategy "Stable Homes Built on Love" and enable more children to receive support earlier, particularly for children under the age of five years old.	At Risk	We are reviewing our approach to early help to consider how we can expand more under 5-year-olds.
Deliver agreed additional safe accommodation for victim survivors of domestic abuse	At Risk	Warwickshire County Council in partnership with our commissioned provider (Refuge) have launched 11 units of dispersed refuge accommodation provision across the county. The units are a mixture of flats, 1 bedroom, 2 bedroom and 3-bedroom houses. These units are able to provide safe accommodation for those who were previously unable to access refuge provision including males, those with pets, those with larger families, those who identify as LGBT+ and those with disabilities. The number of new units is behind target for this point in the year. The Council are working with the provider to understand the reason for this delay- which currently include delays in conveyancing, and suitable properties. Properties in the pipeline continue to be reviewed at contract review meetings. At this stage the provider needs to identify a further 3 units by the end of the financial year.

1.3 Through education, improve life opportunities for children, young people and those with special educational needs

Activity	Status	Commentary
Support the timely delivery of the new alternative provision academy (Talenton Academy) by the Department for Education to ensure opening in September 2025.	Compromised	This project is being funded, commissioned, and delivered by the Department for Education. We are awaiting notification on progress but have been informed the earliest the school will be delivered will be Spring 2026. WCC Commissioning arrangements will continue to ensure provision is available where required until the school is open.

2 The following activities are On Track

Activity
Implement the new safeguarding arrangements for children set out in the revised statutory guidance, 'Working Together to Safeguard Children.
Implement a new short and long-term support offer for children and young people with social, emotional and mental health issues working in partnership with Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership Trust and Coventry and Warwickshire Integrated Care Board.
Agree a business case and implement proposals for the provision of additional school places to ensure we have sufficient capacity in the right locations at the right time, enabling children to be educated in good quality local provision.
Agree a SEND Delivering Better Value Programme to include: Roll-out the Inclusion Framework trial to further families of schools to improve SEN Support in schools.
Agree a SEND Delivering Better Value Programme to include: Deliver a workforce development programme, designed with school leaders, to maintain support and confidence for supporting children with EHC plans in mainstream schools.
Agree a SEND Delivering Better Value Programme to include: Agree a business case and implement proposals for establishing and expanding new and existing SEND Resourced Provision – as an additional level of provision and an alternative to specialist provisions where appropriate.