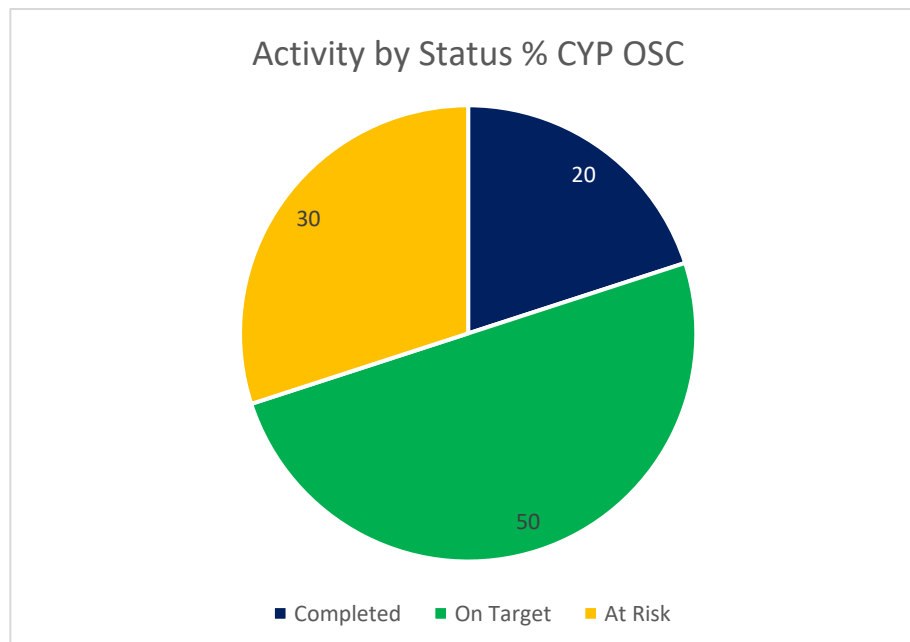


## 1. Children & Young People OSC Progress on the Council Delivery Plan Quarter 2

### 1.1 Key Insights for Quarter 2 2024/25

Of the 59 activities in the Council Delivery Plan 10 are attributable to the Children & Young People Directorate. Of these, 50% of activities are On Track, with 20% At Risk and 20% being completed this Quarter. It is these actions which are reported on below on an exception basis.



### 1.2 The following activities have been completed this Quarter.

- **Implement the new safeguarding arrangements for children set out in the revised statutory guidance, 'Working Together to Safeguard Children'.**

On 1st September 2024 the new Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements have gone live to meet statutory requirements, so ahead of the December deadline. Further roles for Family Practitioners have been put in place, where specialist qualified staff with oversight from social workers will complete assessment. Over 15 people are in these roles, and we will continue to grow this approach in the new Family Help model, with 54 roles in total which have all been recruited to and filled which will start from 1st January 2025. The requirements under Working Together have been achieved and met.

- **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.**

A 5-year pipeline has been produced based on forecast data of required schemes. Additional funding shortfall was identified as c£20m and was secured at July Full Council. All approved schemes will continue to be monitored via our existing robust governance structure.

New schemes will continue to be approved individually via the usual cabinet/full council approach when they are at the appropriate development stage.

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

Activity	Status	Commentary
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	Further work is required to locate mechanisms for data to be provided to enable proactive targeted early help for under 5-year-olds.
Deliver agreed additional safe accommodation for victim survivors of domestic abuse.	At Risk	14 units are now live - there is forecast to have 23 units by the end of the calendar year. Currently have 4 units at the lease signing stage, 4 in refurbishment stage and then 5 that are in the conveyancing/offer accepted stage.

**1.4 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**

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.

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 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.