

**REPORT FOR: CORPORATE  
PARENTING PANEL**

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<b>Date:</b>	18 December 2012
<b>Subject:</b>	INFORMATION REPORT – Performance Update
<b>Key Decision:</b>	No
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Catherine Doran, Corporate Director of Children and Families
<b>Portfolio Holder:</b>	Cllr Mitzi Green, Portfolio Holder for Children, Schools and Families
<b>Exempt:</b>	No
<b>Decision subject to Call-in:</b>	N/A
<b>Enclosures:</b>	Performance Update

## **Section 1 – Summary**

This report is a brief update on performance from the last report to the Panel, which covered the period to end September 2012. The next quarterly activity update will be produced as at end December 2012.

## **Section 2 – Report Issues**

See attachment which shows performance to end October 2012.

### **Key Points:**

- The drive for improvement in children's social care is focusing on improving the quality of social work. Alongside this, thresholds have been reviewed and more Children in Need cases are being allocated to social workers, resulting in increased volume of activity in social care and early intervention teams. This is resulting in performance issues around referrals and has led to significant drop in indicators for initial and core assessments. New resources have been brought in to the relevant social work teams and management action is in place.
- The Divisional Director and Service Manager are taking action to fill social work posts but an improvement in performance cannot yet be reported. All safeguarding concerns are allocated as a priority in line with statutory timescales.
- An action plan is in place to improve numbers of care leavers in suitable accommodation and in education training and employment. This has resulted in major improvements from Q1, but the target has not yet been reached and these indicators remain red.
- The indicator of ceased child protection plans that had lasted for more than 2 years is also red as in bottom quartile of comparator group. This indicator will continue to be affected by the ending of long term plans. Work is on track to reduce long terms plans to 8 or fewer by the year end, meeting the corporate priority in this area.
- Management action is taking place to improve placement options and quality of social work for CLA to address increasing placement instability.
- CLA absence (local indicators, not included in comparator table) were on track after the first 2 months of the new school year. 2 CLA had missed 25 days of school – both are asylum seeking young people awaiting age assessment. The total absence rate for CLA was 7%, well within target.

### **Options considered**

Not applicable

### **Financial Implications**

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

### **Risk Management Implications**

The Children's Services Risk Register is being updated to reflect the performance risks highlighted in this report.

Risk included on Directorate risk register? Yes

Separate risk register in place? No

### **Corporate Priorities**

§ Supporting and protecting people who are most in need

### **Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance**

Name: Roger Hampson	<input type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the*
Date: 7 December 2012		Chief Financial Officer

### **Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers**

#### **Contact:**

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