REPORT FOR:

CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL

Date:	28 th April 2014
Subject:	INFORMATION REPORT – Activity and Performance
Key Decision:	No
Responsible Officer:	Chris Spencer, Interim Corporate Director of Children & Families
Portfolio Holder:	Cllr Janet Mote
Exempt:	No
Decision subject to Call-in:	No
Wards affected:	All
Enclosures:	CLA & CPP Activity and Performance Report

Section 1 – Summary

This report sets out latest performance position and key data relating to Children Looked After (CLA) and Children with Child Protection Plans (CPP)



Section 2 – Report Issues

See attachment which shows performance to Q3 (December 2013) and activity at 31st March 2014.

Key Points:

- Performance indicators are being calculated for Q4 and being finalised for Statutory Returns, the finalised figures will be available for the next meeting
- Outcomes for care leavers especially, education and employment at age 20 and 21 - are a priority for improvement – the Leaving Care Team is working with the Virtual School to improve this. The data is measured around 4 months of their birthday and any changes outside this period are not reflected in this indicator.
- There were 187 Child Protection Plans at 31st March 2014 compared to 122 at 31st March 2013, This reflects the lowering of thresholds to ensure need is being met; and corresponds with significant increases in referrals, assessments and child protection investigations
- Short term placement stability is on target for this stage of the year
- Long term placement stability is below target. This is a small cohort and small changes can have a big impact. 9 out of 18 children who have been looked after for 2.5 years have been in the same placement for 2 years. The drop in performance is due to 1 YP turning 16, three children had a placement move due to an investigation in the placement, 2 children had historical instability but their current placement for over 12 months has been one of stability, 3 children moved to more suitable long term placements,
- Action continues to be taken to improve both short and long term placement stability
- Performance on child protection plans over 2 years and repeat child protection plans has improved significantly
- Initial & review health assessment processes are being addressed and revised with the NHS Trust that provides the CLA nursing service
- Since the start of the new school year 10 out of 76 school aged children have had at least 1 fixed term exclusion, there have been no permanent exclusions year to date.
- The Virtual School is tracking education progress on a termly basis and is working with social care teams and schools to improve educational outcomes for all CLA

Options considered

Not applicable

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

Risk Management Implications

The Children's Services Risk Register has been 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

Cleaner, Safer, Fairer.

Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance

Name: Steve Tingle Date: 16/04/2014

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on behalf of the* Chief Financial Officer

Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact:

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