

REPORT FOR: CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL

Date: 2 December 2014

Subject: INFORMATION REPORT – Activity and Performance

Key Decision: No

Responsible Officer: Chris Spencer, Corporate Director of Children’s Services

Portfolio Holder: Cllr Simon Brown

Wards affected: all

Exempt: No

Decision subject to Call-in: No

Enclosures: CLA & CPP Performance Report

Section 1 – Summary

This report sets out activity for Children Looked After & Children with Child Protection Plans as well as provisional performance position at the end of quarter 2 of 2014-15, National and comparator data will be published by DfE in Q3 for the year ending 2013-14.

Section 2 – Report Issues

See attachment which shows provisional performance position at end of Q2, plus an update of activity for Children Looked After and Children with Child Protection Plans.

Performance indicators for Q1 and Q2 of 2014-15 show stability and improvement. Comparator data for 2013-14 will be available at the next panel.

Key Points:

- Q1 & Q2 data shows stability in referrals, assessments and child protection activity. Slight drop in activity is usual during Q2 due to the summer break. Harrow is now similar to or above statistical neighbour averages in child protection activity. Timeliness of assessments has improved by 10% compared to last year.
- There were 221 Child Protection Plans at 30th Sept. 2014 compared to 179 at the same time last year. Our rate of child protection plans is 38.6 per 10,000 child population and in line with statistical neighbour group average of 37.5. This increase reflects sustained activity following the lowering of thresholds. There is a possibility that that the rise in children subject to CPP may in turn lead to a subsequent increase in CLA.
- Repeat child protection plans within 2 years of previous plan have increased compared to last year, 11 out of 129 children have had a new CPP within 24 months of last plan. The 11 children belong to 5 sets of siblings groups. For 2013-14, this figure was 8 out of 241 children. This is a new indicator and comparator data is not available yet. The previous indicator looked at repeat CP plans at any point.
- The late review Child protection conferences are being audited in order to improve timeliness.
- Our rate of Children Looked After has increased in Q2 and is 33.6 per 10,000 child population but remains lower compared to statistical neighbour average of 43. Our rates have been historically lower.
- Outcomes for care leavers – especially, education and employment at age 20 and 21 remain a priority for improvement. Performance has improved during the year – the data is measured around 4 months of the young person's birthday and any changes outside this period are not reflected in this indicator. 2013-14 is the first year of performance being measured for all eligible care leavers aged 18-21 comparator data is not yet available.

- Short term placement stability is on target, 8.98% of children looked after at 31st March had 3 or more moves compared to 15.5% in 2012-13.
- 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 children turning 16 or ceasing to be looked after as a result of Adoption Order or Special Guardianship Orders. Sometimes a move is positive such as moved to a permanent or long term placements, This indicator is likely to remain low this year as placement instability over the previous 2 years will continue to have an impact.
- Initial health assessment processes are being improved with the NHS Trust. All CLA have had an initial health assessment or one booked however these are outside the 28 day period. Performance remains well below expected levels and this is a priority for improvement. Annual health assessments have seen a huge improvement – over 90% of CLA who are looked after 1 year+ have had their review health assessment.
- Education – Attainment data is provided annually and there are no further updates. September is the start of a new academic year so figures for attendance and exclusions are good, more data will be available at the next panel.

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

The Council's vision:

Working Together to Make a Difference for Harrow

Please identify how the report incorporates the administration's priorities.

- Making a difference for the vulnerable
- Making a difference for families

The report focuses on the qualitative and quantitative measures of service delivery to vulnerable children, young people and families. These measures help to inform & improve service planning.

Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance

Name: Jo Frost Date: 20/11/2014	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Chief Financial Officer
------------------------------------	-------------------------------------	---

Ward Councillors notified:	NO
-----------------------------------	-----------

Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact:

Dipika Patel,
Partner- Business Intelligence Unit
020 8420 9258
dipika.patel@harrow.gov.uk

David Harrington
Head of Business Intelligence
0208 420 9248
David.harrington@harrow.gov.uk