

REPORT FOR: CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL

Date: 20th October 2015
7:30pm

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 at 30th June 2015 as well as provisional performance position at the end of quarter 2 of 2015-16. National and comparator data for 2014-15 has not been published by DfE and therefore 2013-14 comparator data has been used.

Section 2 – Report Issues

See attachment which shows provisional performance position at end of Q2 and an update of activity for Children Looked After and Children with Child Protection Plans at end of June 2015.

Key Points:

- CPP activity is increasing, by end of June there was a 18% increase and by September end there is a 30% increase when compared to March 2014. (213 children with a plan at the end June, 242 at end of September compared to 178 at end of March). Rate of Children with plans is in line with England averages and higher than statistical neighbour averages at September end.
- Timeliness of initial child protection conferences has also improved considering the increased activity.
- Continuing low rates of children subject to a child protection plan (CPP) for more than 2 years indicates timely progression and resolution though there is an increase in children with a plan over 12 months. This continues to be monitored and reviewed. New plans between 0-3 months have increased in line with increased activity this quarter.
- Repeat child protection plans within 2 years of previous plan have increased compared to last year. This indicator was introduced in 2013 so there is not yet published data or local trend data to compare with. The previous indicator looked at all repeat CP plans irrespective of timescales; published comparator data for 2013-14 shows Harrow had 9.3% of repeat plans, while statistical neighbour average was 13.4% and England average was 15.8%. At end of Q2 this is 10%, it is not unusual to be slightly higher in the first half of the year as this tends to stabilise with more conferences taking place during the year.
- Numbers of children looked after remain fairly stable
- There was one CLA who had a permanent exclusion from school in 2014-15. 15 CLA have had fixed term exclusions, 12 of whom were looked after 1 year plus. DfE publish data on exclusions from school for those children looked after 1year+ only, for 2012-13, the Harrow rate was low and suppressed as it would have been possible to identify individuals. Statistical neighbour average was 11.57% and England average was 9.78%. 2013-14 data has not been published.
- Attendance is carefully monitored for **all** CLA and at end of academic year 2014-15, 14.2% of school sessions were missed. DfE publish data

on absence from school for those children looked after 1year+ only, for 2013-14, Harrow's rate was 4.3 %, statistical neighbour average was 4.28% and England average was 3.9%.

- Provisional educational attainment data for CLA 1 year plus indicates 50% of children attained level 4+ at Key Stage 2 in both English and Maths. None attained 5 A*-C including English and Maths at Key Stage 4. CLA educational achievement is a focus of the Virtual School and remains an area for improvement. Published data for CLA & CiN show Harrow as comparable at key stage 2 but not key stage 4.
- There has been significant improvement in long term placement stability. Steps continue to be taken to minimise placement changes. Not all moves should be viewed in a negative light as some children move to more permanent suitable placements. This is a small cohort and small changes can have a big impact. Short term stability in previous years and moves of some sibling groups impacted on this indicator in 2014-15
- CLA initial health assessments have significantly improved. New commissioning arrangements started June 2015. Year-end provisional figures for annual health and dental checks are 88.7% and 89.7% respectively
- 90% of care leavers are in suitable accommodation, 52% are NEET (out of 58, 52 are in suitable accommodation and 25 are NEET) (5 care leavers do not have data recorded and these are impacting on the performance as well. This indicator measures activity and accommodation around 4 months of their birthday only and not at any given date. Any changes in employment or accommodation status at a later date do not count for the indicator. Published data shows Harrow doing better than statistical neighbour and England averages. This indicator is changing and will include 17 and 18 years and work is in progress to record this data
- 6 adoptions and 9 SGO's granted year to date. Good performance by end of Q2

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 15/10/2015



on behalf of the*
Chief Financial Officer

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