

REPORT FOR: CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL

Date:	30 th October 2018
Subject:	INFORMATION REPORT – Activity and Performance
Key Decision:	No
Responsible Officer:	Paul Hewitt, Corporate Director of People
Portfolio Holder:	Councillor Christine Robson, Portfolio Holder for Children, Young People and Schools
Wards affected:	All
Exempt:	No
Decision subject to Call-in:	No, as the Recommendation is for noting only
Enclosures:	CLA Performance Report

Section 1 –Summary and Recommendations

This is an information report which sets out activity for children looked after and care leavers as well as provisional performance position at Q2 2018-19. National and comparator data is also included where appropriate for context.

RECOMMENDATION: That the report be noted

Reason for Recommendation: To keep the Panel informed of performance in their role as Corporate Parents.

Section 2 – Report

See the attachment which shows provisional outturn position at the end of September and an update of activity for children looked after (CLA) at the end of September where available.

Key Points:

- Above target on timeliness of CLA reviews
- Above target on both long and short term placement stability indicators
- Health indicators are below target at Q2 – due to time lag in receiving reports and entering data. This is a focus for improvement by year end.
- Adoptions are below target at Q2 - this indicator involves small numbers and is dependent on court proceedings
- Missing instances for CLA showing high compared to target but published data shows that Harrow is within comparator averages
- Confirmed key stage 2 and key stage 4 results are not yet available, Virtual school will be providing provisional results. Harrow had higher absence and exclusions rates compared to statistical neighbour (SN) and England averages for 2016-17 and is a focus for the virtual school. In year monitoring is higher than published data because local monitoring includes all CLA at a given date whilst DfE indicators only look at children looked after at 31st March who they are able to match with the National Pupil Database.
- The number of all CLA has been increasing since the start of the financial year, 173 CLA at end of Q2 compared to 159 at 31st March. There has also been a rise in number of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children by 12 in the same period.
- Profile of CLA (age, gender, ethnicity) is mostly similar to previous quarter with a slight increase in children from 'mixed' and 'other' backgrounds and a drop from 'white' backgrounds, there is also an increase in children aged 16+.
- The service is following up on initial health assessments, often there is a time lag in health assessments reports being received and data entered in the case recording system.
- Of those CLA at 30th September, 51% had become looked after due to an initial need category of abuse of neglect, followed by 20% due to

absent parenting - mainly unaccompanied asylum seekers.

- The percentage of care leavers in suitable accommodation has increased since last quarter to 92%. Currently 31% of care leavers are not in employment education or training. All efforts are made to help young people gain skills and training through Xcite and similar projects. Published data shows Harrow to be better than statistical neighbour and England averages.
- Numbers of CLA 'missing' and 'away from placement without authorisation' have increased. However the proportion of CLA with at least one missing or absent instance is lower than that compared at the same period last year.
- CLA offending data is updated quarterly, with Q1 data showing a decrease of 2 young people from the previous quarter. Though our data was not published due to suppression rules, for 2016 -17 this would have been 6% and for 2017-18 this will be around 6.5%.

Options considered

Not applicable as this is an information 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

Legal Implications

Not applicable as this is an information report.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

Equalities implications / Public Sector Equality Duty

Not applicable as this is an information report.

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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Chief Financial Officer
Date: 22/10/2018		

Ward Councillors notified:	NO, this is an information report only
EqIA carried out:	NO
EqIA cleared by:	N/A information report only

Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

- Source: Local data taken from Mosaic System
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/children-looked-after-in-england-including-adoption-2016-to-2017>
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/children-looked-after-in-england-including-adoption-2015-to-2016>

Contact:

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