

**CHILDREN AND FAMILIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 2 MARCH
2015**

QUARTER 3 2014/15 PERFORMANCE REPORT

**REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND
FAMILY SERVICES**

Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of this report is to present the Overview and Scrutiny Committee with an update of Children and Family Services performance at the end of quarter 3 of 2014/15.

Policy Framework and Previous Decisions

2. Children and Family Services performance is reported on a quarterly basis to the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The previous report covered performance to quarter 2 of 2014/15.

Background

3. The report is based on the set of performance measures aligned with the new Council Corporate Strategy to 2017/18. The overall performance dashboard is attached as Appendix A.
4. The report is now divided into the four key priority areas identified by the Children and Family Services department:
 - Children and Young People are Safe
 - Children and Young People achieve their potential
 - Children and Young People have their Health and Wellbeing and Life Chances Improved
 - Thriving Communities

Report Changes

5. Statistical neighbour benchmarks for all Social Care measures are now updated to include 2013/14 data in all cases. Additional statistical neighbour benchmarks are now available for some (but not all) education measures.
6. The indicator for 'Oral Health of 3 year olds' has been included in the place of 'Oral Health of 5 year olds'. Dental surveys take place annually and use a different age group.

Performance summary

7. From 28 measures that have new data available: 14 have improved; 4 show no significant change; 6 have declined; and 4 have no comparisons available.
8. From 26 measures that have a national benchmark: 6 are in the top quartile, 8 are in the second quartile, 3 are in the third quartile and 9 are in the fourth quartile.
9. From 32 indicators that have a statistical neighbour benchmark, 16 are better than the statistical neighbour average and 16 are below.

Children and Young People are Safe

10. Updated figures are available for all indicators in the section 'Children and Young People are Safe'.
11. The number of 'Child Protection case reviewed within timescales' increased to 98.9%. The 'percentage of children with 3 or more placements during the year' decreased by 4% to 10.8%. Both measures are in the second quartile by national levels, although the latter measure is close to the lower boundary.
12. The indicator '% of children in the same placement for 2+ years or placed for adoption' showed decreased performance. The percentage decreased from 65.4% in Q2 to 57.5% and reflected 69 out of 120 children.
13. A 2011-14 figure has been published for '% of children who wait less than 20 months between entering care and moving in with their adoptive family' and places Leicestershire in the top quartile although the percentage has dropped slightly from 63% to 60%.
14. The percentage of Care Leavers in suitable accommodation was 61.1% for 2013/14. This is fourth quartile by national standards. The percentage of Care Leavers not in education, employment or training (EET) was 38.9% and in the second quartile nationally.
15. The percentage of 'Child Protection plans lasting 2 years or more' decreased again (improved performance) and is now at 0%. The percentage of 'Children becoming subject to a child protection plan for a second or subsequent time' decreased from 18.6% to 16.6%. This is an improvement on Q2 but still behind the national average and 3rd quartile.

Children and Young People Achieve their Potential

Early Years Foundation Stage

16. The percentage of Childminders and the percentage of Private Voluntary and Independent (PVI) providers rated as Good or Outstanding improved in both cases (by 7.2% and 1.1% respectively). This contributed to a 5.4% rise in the All Childcare figure.
17. The number of eligible families taking up Free Early Education Entitlement for 3 year olds increased by 5.6% to 94%. The national calculation for 2 year old take up has been changed, with the previous cohort of top 20% most deprived now

expanded to include the top 40% so although the measured uptake percentage has fallen, the actual number has remained at a similar level to Q2.

Children in Care

18. DfE Key Stage 2 data has been published and shows 58% of Leicestershire children achieving L4+ in Reading, Writing and Mathematics. This is an increase on the provisional figure and places Leicestershire in the top quartile of local authorities.

Ofsted outcomes

19. The percentage of Leicestershire schools rated as Good or Outstanding is currently 84.6%. This is above the latest national figure of 81.4% and shows an increase of 1.6% from the April 2014 baseline.

20. The percentage of Leicestershire pupils attending a Good or Outstanding school is currently 79.6%, also an increase of 1.6% from the April 2014 baseline. This is 0.5% above the latest national figure.

Economy/Employment and Skills

21. The latest data shows that 3.1% of 16-18 year olds in Leicestershire are not in education, employment or training (NEET). This is a slight increase of 0.1% compared to Q2 and represents 653 young people.

22. The Participation rate as reported by Prospects is 96.1%. This is a 13.4% increase from Q2 and reflects a truer picture of the Leicestershire rate following the Year 12 cohort update.

Children and Young People have their Health and Wellbeing and Life Chances Improved

23. Data from the Oral Survey of 3 year olds is included and shows Leicestershire children to have a significantly higher percentage of decayed, missing or filled teeth compared to the national average. The figure in Leicestershire is 18.6% compared to 12% nationally.

24. Breast feeding at 6-8 weeks prevalence in Leicestershire is 45.56%. This is 3.15% below the reported Q2 figure.

25. Data from 2014 regarding excess weight for 4-5 year olds and 10-11 year olds has been published. The Leicestershire figures are very similar to 2013 and the county remains in the top performing quartile of all authorities.

Thriving Communities

26. Supporting Leicestershire Families was supporting 363 families at the start of December 2014. Although this is 10 fewer than Q2, the service is now working to capacity and the figure is expected to fluctuate around this mark due to natural turnover of families being worked with.

27. A figure for the indicator 'minimal use of custodial sentences for young people' was included in a recent Members update and stated: *"Our custody levels remain low from July-December 2014 with a total of 2 young people being sentenced to custody. This is much lower than the regional and national use of custody rates."*

Conclusion

28. This report provides an update on Children and Families performance at the end of quarter 3, 2014/15. Progress will continue to be monitored in all outcome areas, with a particular focus on indicators with declining performance.

Background papers

None

Circulation under Local Issues Alert Procedure

None

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List of Appendices

Appendix A - Children and Family Services performance dashboard for quarter 3, 2014/15

Equality and Human Rights Implications

29. Addressing equalities issues is supported by this report. The education of vulnerable groups is reported on directly to the relevant Assistant Director and will be covered in a specific education report.