

**CHILDREN AND FAMILIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE- 18 JANUARY 2016**

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

QUARTER 2 2015/16 PERFORMANCE REPORT

Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of this report is to present the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee with an update of the Children and Families Service performance at the end of quarter 2 of 2015/16.

Background

2. The report is based on the set of performance measures aligned with the Council's Corporate Strategy to 2017/18. The overall performance dashboard is attached as Appendix A. Appendix B supports the indicator 'Feedback from families and evaluation provides evidence of positive impact'.

Report Changes

3. Quarter 2 contains the first provisional release of Leicestershire Key Stage Four data.
4. The figure for 16 and 17 year olds participating in education or training is taken from a Department for Education draft data release. Prospects local data is usually used for this indicator.
5. The 3 year old Free Early Education Entitlement figure now includes all children within Leicestershire provision. This is to be consistent with DfE reporting. Previously, only children residing in Leicestershire were counted.
6. The number of Payment by Results claims in Phase 2 of the programme is now included on the dashboard. This was previously reported as a percentage of the Phase 1 target.

Overview

7. From 27 measures that have new data available: 10 have improved; 12 show no significant change and 5 have declined.

8. From 26 measures that have a national benchmark: 8 are in the top quartile, 6 are in the second quartile, 7 are in the third quartile and 5 are in the fourth quartile.
9. From 34 indicators that have a statistical neighbour benchmark, 15 are better than the statistical neighbour average, 12 are below and 7 are at a similar level.

Children and Young People are Safe

10. The number of 'Child Protection cases reviewed within timescales' was 97.4%, a similar percentage to quarter 1. This would be in the second highest quartile of local authorities.
11. The 'percentage of children with 3 or more placements during the year' decreased (improved) to 12.63%, this would place Leicestershire in the third quartile nationally. The '% of children in the same placement for 2+ years or placed for adoption' increased to 63.28% and would be in the third quartile by national levels. Both indicators have improved from the quarter 1 position when both were fourth quartile.
12. The percentage of 'Child Protection plans lasting 2 years or more' was 0% - the best possible level. The percentage of 'Children becoming subject to a child protection plan for a second or subsequent time' decreased (improved) to 30.5% but would place Leicestershire in the fourth quartile of local authorities.
13. Care Leavers in Suitable Accommodation fell to 53.9% (declining performance) and Care Leavers Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) fell to 30.3% (improved performance). However, both figures are affected by some of the Care Leavers cohort not having a recorded contact within the period and therefore not counted in the figures.

Children and Young People Achieve their Potential

Early Years Foundation Stage

14. The percentage of Childminders rated as Good or Outstanding fell by 1.3% to 82% but still remains above the latest available statistical neighbour average. The percentage of Private Voluntary and Independent (PVI) providers rated as Good or Outstanding saw a small 0.5% increase to 91%. The All childcare figure was similar to quarter 1 at 85%.
15. The number of eligible families taking up Free Early Education Entitlement for 2 year olds increased by 5.9% to 72%. Take up for eligible 3 year olds was 98%. This figure has changed criteria for quarter 2 and now includes all children in Leicestershire provision.

Key Stage One

16. Further Department for Education data for Key Stage One has been released. Leicestershire saw improvements in all subject areas and continues to be above national levels in all subjects for pupils achieving the benchmark Level 2.

Key Stage Two

17. As previously reported, Key Stage Two results improved and were marginally above national levels for the benchmark Level Four or above in Reading, Writing and Mathematics.

Key Stage Three (aged14)

18. There is no national collection of Key Stage Three attainment. However, approximately 90% of Leicestershire schools still submit data to the performance team on a voluntary basis for analysis and comparison. Based on the data available:

19. The percentage of children reaching Level 5+ in Maths and English at Key Stage Three rose again to 91.6%. This is a 0.9% rise compared to the 2014 figure.

20. Each individual subject area – English, Maths and Science – improved: by 1.3%, 0.6% and 0.6% respectively.

Key Stage Four

21. The figures for GCSE results are recently released and provisional. The percentage of pupils achieving the benchmark 5 GCSEs A*- C (including Maths and English) was 56.1% - a 0.4% decline from 2014. The provisional national figure shows a similar decrease to 56.3%. The statistical neighbour average is above both Leicestershire and national levels at 57.5%.

22. Expected Progress between Key Stage Two and Four was 68.7% for Maths and 66.7% for English. This represented a 1.4% decrease in English (from 68.1%) but a strong 3.4% increase in Mathematics progress from 65.3%. Progress in Maths is now 2.1% above national levels and in the second quartile of local authorities. English progress is below national levels and remains in the third quartile.

Key Stage Five

23. Recently published Key Stage Five data shows Leicestershire to have an average point score per A Level entry of 208 points. This is slightly lower than 2014 (210.3 points) and places Leicestershire in the third quartile of Local Authorities. However, the average grade remains in the same band of a 'C'.

Vulnerable groups

24. The performance of pupils eligible for Free School Meals was variable across the Key Stages. Key Stage One saw no improvement for the group but performance was improved at Key Stage Two. Attainment at Key Stage Four was marginally better than 2014 and coupled with the small decline in the 'all pupils' figure, the gap between FSM and non-FSM pupils decreased (i.e. improved) by 0.9% to 29.7%

25. The performance of SEN pupils of both categories (SEN Support and pupils with a Statement or Education and Health Care plan) was lower than both national

levels and statistical neighbours in all key subjects and showed no improvement compared to 2014. However it should be noted that 'SEN Support' replaces 'SEN without statement' for 2015 and is a more targeted group (773 pupils compared to 926).

26. The performance of 'English as Additional Language' pupils at Key Stage One was better than national and statistical neighbour levels in almost all cases. Leicestershire performance is very strong for this group.

Children in Care

27. Provisional data suggests that Key Stage Two and Key Stage Four outcomes for children in care will be very similar to the 2014 results – 55.6% achieving Level 4+ in Reading, Writing and Mathematics at the end of Key Stage Two and 7.7% for 5 GCSEs A*-C (including English and Maths). In 2014, this placed the Leicestershire KS2 result in the top quartile and GCSE results in the bottom quartile
28. Due to the small cohort of children in care, final results can vary significantly to provisional results as one child can represent several percentage points.

Ofsted outcomes

29. The percentage of Leicestershire schools rated as Good or Outstanding and pupils in Good or Outstanding schools have seen little change due to the schools summer break. Both sit in the second quartile and are above national averages at 86.2% and 83.3% respectively.

Economy/Employment and Skills

30. The latest data from Prospects is for the end of September and shows a Leicestershire NEET figure of 3.4% (704 young people). This is above the quarter 1 figure of 2.8% but is consistent with the seasonal trend as 2015 school leavers join the cohort.
31. National data has been released for '16 and 17 year olds participating in education and training'. The Leicestershire level is 92.3% for the end of June 2015, which is in the top quartile of Local Authorities. This is also comfortably above the statistical neighbour average of 88.58%. The 'not participating' group differs from NEET as it also includes additional categories such as those working without recognised training and working or learning part-time. Although these categories are classed as EET, participation has a greater emphasis on formal training and working towards recognised qualifications.

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

32. Breast feeding at 6-8 weeks prevalence is 46.8% for Leicestershire. This is 0.6% lower than the quarter 1 figure.

Thriving Communities

33. Appendix B contains comments from users of the SLF service in relation to the indicator 'Feedback from families and evaluation provides evidence of positive impact'.

34. The criteria for the 'number of families supported through the SLF service' has now changed as SLF is now integrated into the broader Early Help offer and includes a wider range of LCC support services for children and families. The number of assessments conducted by the new SLF service during quarter 2 was 1877. This was an increase of 143 compared to quarter 1.

Circulation Under Local Issues Alert Procedure

None.

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Appendices

Appendix A - Children and Families Department performance dashboard for quarter 2, 2015/16

Appendix B supports the indicator 'Feedback from families and evaluation provides evidence of positive impact'

Equality and Human Rights Implications

35. Addressing equalities issues is supported by this report. The corporate dashboard highlights a number of elements of performance on equalities issues. The education of pupils eligible for the Pupil Premium is recorded in this report with other pupil groups reported on directly to the relevant Heads of Strategy.