

**CHILDREN AND FAMILIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**  
**- 4 APRIL 2016**

**REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN  
AND FAMILIES**

**QUARTER 3 2015/16 PERFORMANCE REPORT**

**Purpose of Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to present the Committee with an update of the Children and Families Service performance at the end of quarter 3 of 2015/16.

**Background**

2. The report is based on the set of performance measures aligned with the Council 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'. Appendix C contains a summary of the National Childhood Measurement Programme (NCMP) data for Leicestershire.

**Report Changes**

3. There are now two indicators for Child Protection Plans lasting 2 years or more. Both are national indicators:
  - i. Child Protection Plans lasting 2 years or more that cease during the year
  - ii. Child Protection Plans lasting 2 years or more open at the end of the quarter
4. Education data for pupils where English is an Additional Language (EAL) is referenced as the group is included in Ofsted's East Midlands Challenge.

**Overview**

5. From 28 measures that have new data available: 16 have improved; 6 show no significant change, 4 have declined and 2 have no comparison.
6. From 31 measures that have a national benchmark: 8 are in the top quartile, 6 are in the second quartile, 9 are in the third quartile and 8 are in the fourth quartile.
7. From 39 indicators that have a statistical neighbour benchmark, 19 are better than the statistical neighbour average, 15 are below and 5 are at a similar level.

**Children and Young People are Safe**

8. The number of 'Child Protection cases reviewed within timescales' was 98.7%, slightly above the quarter 2 percentage of 97.4%.

9. The percentage of Child Protection plans lasting 2 years or more that were open at the end of quarter 3 was 0.58% (2 cases). This is top quartile performance by available comparisons. The percentage of plans lasting 2 years or more that closed during the quarter was 5% (5 cases). This is slightly higher than comparators but does involve small numbers.
10. The percentage of 'Children becoming subject to a child protection plan for a second or subsequent time' decreased again (improved) to 28.95%. However, this would still place Leicestershire in the fourth quartile of local authorities.
11. The 'percentage of children with 3 or more placements during the year' was 12.55%. This is similar to quarter 2 and would place Leicestershire in the third quartile nationally. The 'percentage of children in the same placement for 2+ years or placed for adoption' improved to 67.41% and would now be in the second quartile by national levels and above statistical neighbour levels.
12. Care Leavers in Suitable Accommodation was 66.7%, an improvement on quarter 2 (53.9%) but still fourth quartile by comparison. Care Leavers Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) was 35.9%, second quartile by comparison. Both figures are still affected by a high number of 'unknown' young people (those without a confirmed contact) although the prevalence of this is lower than quarter 2 (unconfirmed cases in Q2 was approximately a third of the total but is now closer to a quarter).

## **Children and Young People Achieve their Potential**

### **Early Years Foundation Stage**

13. The percentage of Childminders rated as Good or Outstanding fell by 2.8% to 79.2% whilst the percentage of Private Voluntary and Independent (PVI) providers rated as Good or Outstanding increased by 1.2%. The two figures contributed to 'All childcare' figure of 83.7% which was slightly lower than quarter 2 (85%) but still above the most recent statistical neighbour figure.
14. The number of eligible families taking up Free Early Education Entitlement for 2 year olds increased again, rising by 7.2% to 79.2%, this follows a 5.9% rise in quarter 2. Take up for eligible 3 year olds was 100%. This figure has changed criteria from quarter 2 and now includes all children in Leicestershire provision (regardless of residence).

### **Education attainment**

15. Confirmed Key Stage Four results have been released, which take account of appeal outcomes (i.e. re-marks) and exclude pupils who have recently arrived in the country. Leicestershire's confirmed figure for 5 GCSEs (A\*-C including English and Maths) is 56.8%. This is 0.7% above the previously available provisional figure. The national figure was 57.3%, 0.5% higher than Leicestershire, compared to 0.3% higher in 2014.
16. Progress between Key stages 2 to 4 was mixed in Leicestershire: progress in Mathematics is now 1.8% above national levels after a 3.9% improvement; whilst progress in English fell by 0.8% and is now 4.4% below national levels.

## Vulnerable groups

### **Key Stage Two**

17. The performance of pupils eligible for Free School Meals at Key Stage Two for Reading, Writing and Mathematics was 60% compared to the national level of 66%. This places Leicestershire in the bottom quartile of all local authorities. Performance was closer to statistical neighbour average of 60.4%
18. The percentage of pupils achieving level 4 for Reading, Writing and Maths (RWM) for whom English is an Additional Language (EAL) was slightly above national levels (80% Leicestershire, 79% England). The percentage of Leicestershire pupils with a statement of Special Educational Needs (SEN), who achieved level 4 RWM was 14% (26 of 180 pupils) compared with 16% nationally.

### **Key Stage Four**

19. Attainment of pupils eligible for Free School Meals rose by 0.7% to 29% for attainment of 5 GCSEs (A\*-C including English and Maths). This is third quartile by national standards. The gap between FSM and non-FSM pupils is 2.2% wider in Leicestershire than nationally (30.1% gap in Leicestershire, 27.9% nationally). This is an improvement on 2014.
20. The performance of EAL pupils was very good in Leicestershire with an attainment level of 65.7% compared to 56.5% for the same group nationally. There are 434 eligible pupils in this category.
21. Pupils with a statement of SEN achieved above national levels as a group – 9.2% in Leicestershire (of 240 eligible pupils), 8.8% nationally.

## Ofsted outcomes

22. The percentage of Leicestershire schools rated as Good or Outstanding and pupils in Good or Outstanding schools both saw a small rise and remain above national averages and in the second quartile of local authorities. The current figures stand at 86.6% and 83.9% respectively. The percentage of good or outstanding Special Schools remained at 100%.

## Economy/Employment and Skills

23. The latest data from Prospects is for the end of November 2015 and shows a Leicestershire NEET figure of 3.0% (623 young people) for young people aged 16-18. This is similar to the quarter 2 figure of 3.1%.
24. Prospects have also provided data for participation in education and learning for year 12 aged young people (the first year after leaving school). This is currently 96.6%. The Leicestershire level has been around 96% over the past year.

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

25. Breast feeding at 6-8 weeks prevalence is 46.64% for Leicestershire. This is similar to the final 2014/15 figure and an increase compared to quarter 2.

26. New data has been released for the National Child Measurement Programme. Leicestershire once again compares well to national comparators. 20.2% of reception children in Leicestershire are obese or overweight – statistically significantly lower than the England and East Midlands averages (21.9% and 21.7% respectively); and 29.9% of Year 6 children are overweight or obese, significantly lower than the England and East Midlands averages (33.2% and 32.3% respectively).

27. Although both figures are better than available comparators, this still equates to approximately 1554 overweight or obese reception aged children in Leicestershire and 2155 obese or overweight Year 6 children.

28. Further details, including District figures, are available in Appendix C.

### **Thriving Communities**

29. 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'.

30. The number of assessments conducted by the new SLF service during quarter 3 was 2476. This is a large rise compared to quarter 2 when 1877 assessments took place. This is influenced by the service stabilising after the restructure earlier in the year and staff consolidating in new roles.

### **Circulation under the Local Issues Alert Procedure**

None.

### **Officers to Contact**

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### **List of Appendices**

Appendix A - Children and Families Department performance dashboard for quarter 3, 2015/16

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

Appendix C – NCMP report: Prevalence of overweight, underweight and obese children in Leicestershire 2014/15

## **Equality and Human Rights Implications**

31. 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.