



CHILDREN AND FAMILIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
22nd JANUARY 2019

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

QUARTER 2 2018/19 PERFORMANCE REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is to present the Committee with an update of the Children and Family Services Department's performance for the period July to September 2018 (Quarter 2).

Policy Framework and Previous Decisions

2. The Children and Family Services Department's performance is reported to the Committee in accordance with the Council's corporate performance management arrangements.

Background

3. A new Strategic Plan 2018-2022 has been agreed by the Council and a small number of new indicators have been added for 2018/19 to reflect the new Outcomes Framework, including additional Social Care indicators that are monitored on the recommendation of Ofsted. The current performance dashboard is attached as Appendix A, and this has been refreshed to concentrate on indicators where new data is available for Quarter 2, including provisional secondary school outcomes. Appendix B supports the Early Help indicator "Feedback from families and evaluation provides evidence of positive impact".
4. Quartile positions are added where comparative national data is available. Comparative data is not available for all indicators.

Overview

5. From 33 measures that have been reported, seven have improved, 14 show no significant change and nine have declined. In addition to this, 3 indicators provide information with no polarity.
6. From 21 measures that have a national benchmark, four are in the top quartile, nine are in the second quartile, six are in the third quartile and two are in the fourth quartile.

Children at most risk are kept safe and protected from harm

7. The number of 'Child Protection cases reviewed within timescales' was 96.5% in quarter 2, a slightly higher figure than quarter 1. This remains high by national levels and in the second quartile of all local authorities. This equates to 9 of 263 cases not being reviewed in the required timescales.
8. The percentage of 'Children becoming subject to a child protection plan for a second or subsequent time' increased from 12% to 21.5%. Although this is a large percentage rise, this involves relatively small numbers and represents 22 children compared to 15 in quarter 1. This is now in the third quartile of local authorities by available comparisons. The year to date figure is 15.8%.
9. The percentage of re-referrals to Social Care within 12 months was 24.8% (307 children), which was lower than quarter 1 when the figure was 29% (415 referrals). The figure is higher than the national average but closer to the statistical neighbour average of 24.1%. Monthly audits take place within the service to monitor this. This is linked to ongoing work regarding Children in Need which should see an improving picture over the year.
10. The percentage of 'single assessments completed within 45 days' were 68.2%. This was lower than the quarter 1 figure of 76% but represented more assessments taking place – 708 in quarter 2 and 668 in quarter 1. This reflects the higher volume of work being undertaken during the quarter. This is lower than available national and statistical neighbour comparisons, which are both over 80%. This remains an area of focused attention to improve performance.
11. The percentage of Child Protection plans lasting two years or more that were open at the end of quarter 1 was 1.1% (four children). The current figure places Leicestershire in the second quartile of local authorities using available comparators.
12. There were 67 Child Sexual Exploitation referrals in Leicestershire during quarter 2. This is lower than quarter 1 when 81 referrals were made.

Children are living in stable and secure environments

13. The 'percentage of children with three or more placements during the year' was 8.5% (50 children). This is very similar to quarter 1 and places Leicestershire in the second quartile nationally. The 'percentage of children in the same placement for 2+ years or placed for adoption' was 67.1% (102). This is also similar to quarter 1 and places Leicestershire in the third quartile by national levels.
14. The percentage of Care Leavers in Suitable Accommodation was 83% (88 of 106 young people). This is lower than quarter 1 (92.1%) and places Leicestershire in the third quartile of local authorities using available comparisons.
15. The percentage of Care Leavers in Education, Employment or Training was 55.7% (59 of 106 young people). This is similar to quarter 1 and places Leicestershire into the second quartile by comparison with other local authorities.

Child Health and Wellbeing

16. The percentage of 'Children in Care who have had an annual health assessment' within the last 12 months was 79.2% (302 children). This is 4.7% higher than quarter 1. Completion of health assessments continues to be overseen by the

Children in Care Head of Service and Service Manager, with specific actions identified to address delays and barriers including systems support, processes and staffing pressures.

17. The percentage of 'Children in Care who have had a dental check' was 68.4 % (282 children). This is 3.2% higher than quarter 1.
18. The Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ) is a tool which is used to identify Looked After Children who are at risk of developing emotional and behavioural difficulties. The Department for Education (DfE) class a score of 0-13 as 'normal', 14-16 as 'borderline' and 17-40 as 'cause for concern'. The mean score for Leicestershire children was 14 in quarter 1. This figure has been between 14 and 16 in Leicestershire during the past year. A score of 15 for Leicestershire is slightly better than the statistical neighbour average of 15.58. The scores for Leicestershire children range from a low of zero and one to a high of 36 and 37.

Families are self-sufficient and able to cope

19. The number of families receiving targeted Early Help during quarter 2 was 623; this was lower than the previous quarter (829). The number of individuals receiving help was 1,607 and this was also lower than quarter 1. This includes family members and individuals supported through Supporting Leicestershire Families and the Children's Centre Programme. Both figures were affected by decreased capacity within the service during a review of the Early Help service.
20. To date, the Supporting Leicestershire Families programme has claimed Payment By Results (PBR) for 1587 families. This represents 57.3% of the overall target for Leicestershire. Progress towards the target remains strong in Leicestershire compared to available regional comparisons.

People are safe in their daily lives

21. The cumulative 2018/19 figure for 'first time entrants to the criminal justice system aged 10-17' was 52 at the end of quarter 2, which represents exactly half of the whole year figure for 2017/18.
22. The rate of re-offending per young offender is reported a quarter in arrears and was 0.35 for quarter 1 2018/19. The comparative figure for 2017/18 was 0.29.
23. One young person was sentenced to custody during quarter 2. This is similar to previous quarters.

Every child has access to good quality education and achieves their potential

24. Free Early Education Entitlement (FEEE) is collected three times a year (termly). There is no new data to report in quarter 2.
25. The percentage of Leicestershire schools rated as Good or Outstanding and the percentage of pupils in Good or Outstanding schools are both lower than quarter 1. However, this reflects a national pattern and both measures are above statistical neighbours averages. The current figures are 86.3% and 84.9% respectively.

26. The percentage of primary schools rated Good or Outstanding was 87.44% at the end of quarter 2 (195 schools). This has fallen slightly but is above statistical neighbour averages which are also lower than quarter 1. The secondary school figure was 79.16% (38 schools) which is also lower than quarter 1 but remains in the second quartile of local authorities and above statistical neighbours.
27. The percentage of Good or Outstanding Special Schools remained at 100%.

Provisional 2018 Key Stage Four (GCSE) and Key Stage 5 (A Level) school outcomes

28. Key Stage Four performance in Leicestershire schools improved for the two headline measures of Progress 8 and Attainment 8. Progress 8 is a measure where '0' represents the target, indicating that all pupils have made the expected progress between key stage two and four. Attainment 8 takes the average point score (from 1-9) in each of the eight key subject areas.
29. In Leicestershire, Attainment 8 rose from 45.6 to 46.1. This score represents an average grade C compared to old GCSE measures. This is similar to the statistical neighbour average and in the second quartile of all local authorities. Progress 8 rose from -0.11 to -0.03 (better than the statistical neighbour average of -0.08).
30. At Key Stage Five, A Level students in Leicestershire scored an Average Point Score per entry of 30.5. This is higher than 2017 and places Leicestershire in the third quartile of local authorities, which was also the case in 2017. This figure includes state funded sixth forms and colleges.

Outcomes for Vulnerable Groups

31. The provisional Progress 8 figure for children eligible for Free School Meals (FSM) was -0.7. This is the same as 2017. National comparisons are not yet available for this group.
32. The provisional Progress 8 figure for children with Special Educational Needs support was -0.53. This was slightly behind the 2017 figure but there was a small improvement in Attainment 8 for the group. SEN support pupils have previously been identified as an area for improvement in Leicestershire.
33. Outcomes for Children in Care are not yet available.

Leicestershire has a highly skilled and employable workforce

34. Latest NEET data (young people Not in Education, Employment or Training), is for the end of September 2018 and shows a Leicestershire figure of 1.6%. This is lower than quarter 1 and represents 164 young people. Leicestershire is in the highest quartile of local authorities for NEET.
35. The NEET figure for young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities was 3.6% at the end of September 2018. This is a slightly higher percentage than quarter 1 but represents 1 less young person; 15 in total.

Conclusion

36. The report provides a summary of performance at the end of Quarter 2 of 2018/19, covering the period July – September.

37. Details of all metrics will continue to be monitored on a regular basis throughout the year and any subsequent changes will be notified in future reports.

Background Papers

Strategic Plan 2018-22 and Outcomes Framework

Relevant Impact Assessments

Equality and Human Rights Implications

38. Addressing equalities issues is supported by this report, with a focus on vulnerable groups within Leicestershire, including children in care. Education data relating to different context groups including children with Special Educational Needs and Free School Meals is reported when data becomes available.

List of Appendices

- Appendix A - Children and Family Services Department Performance Dashboard for Quarter 2, 2018/19

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