



**CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES OVERVIEW AND  
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**7 MARCH 2023**

**QUARTER 3 2022/23 PERFORMANCE REPORT**

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

**Purpose of the Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to present the Committee with an update on the Children and Family Services Department's performance for the period to December 2022 (quarter 3).

**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 and Overview**

3. The Strategic Plan was agreed by Cabinet on 18 May 2022. Performance reporting arrangements will be revised accordingly to reflect these changes.
4. The Children and Family Services Department has also produced a Departmental Plan 2020-2023 which identifies ambitions and measures to monitor progress. The following report and accompanying data aim to report on the priority areas identified by both plans and monitor performance of key indicators on a quarterly basis. The current performance data is appended and has been refreshed to concentrate on indicators where updated data is available for quarter 3.
5. Quartile positions are added where comparative national data is available. Comparative data is not available for all indicators.
6. From 18 measures that have a national benchmark, four are in the top quartile, eight are in the second quartile, and six are in the third quartile.

### **Helping children in Leicestershire live in safe, stable environments and have secure attachments**

7. Local Authority comparisons used are most recent figures published by the government for end of year benchmarking.
8. As a result of improvements made to the Mosaic case management system in December, the number of social care performance indicators available is temporarily reduced while reporting systems are updated.
9. The percentage of children becoming subject to a child protection plan for a second or subsequent time remained similar at 22.7% at the end of quarter 3 compared to 22.6% at the end of quarter 2. In this period 38 children began a second or subsequent child protection plan, an increase from 33 reported in the preceding quarter. Leicestershire is now placed in the third quartile of local authorities compared to most recent national results published for 2021/22. This continues to be an area of focus for the service and regular audits are completed, to understand any themes around the circumstances leading to repeat periods of child protection planning.
10. Ten Child Protection plans lasting two years or more were open at the end of quarter 3, representing 1.8% of cases. This is a small increase compared with the end of quarter 2 (eight children, 1.4%). Leicestershire remains in the second quartile of local authorities.
11. The percentage of Care Leavers in Suitable Accommodation was 94.0% at the end of quarter 3 (233 out of 248 young people). This is a small increase from the end of quarter 2 (93.3%) and continues to place Leicestershire in the first quartile of local authorities using available comparisons.
12. The percentage of Care Leavers in Education, Employment or Training was 64.5% at the end of quarter 3 (160 out of 248 young people). This is an increase from the end of quarter 2, 61.3%, and continues to place Leicestershire in the top quartile by comparison with other local authorities. The service continues to provide careful oversight to the care leaver indicators and is driven by a corporate commitment for creating mentoring and apprenticeship opportunities for care leavers.

### **Helping children and their families build strength, resilience, confidence, and capacity**

13. During quarter 3 2022/23, the Children and Family Wellbeing Service (CFWS) worked with 3,489 individuals and 1,435 families across Leicestershire. This is lower than quarter 3 2021/22 in both cases, when the figures were 3,775 and 1,533, respectively.
14. The Children and Families Services Departmental Plan states the intention to ensure that the needs of young people are identified as early as possible so that timely and appropriate support is provided in the right setting, therefore reducing the risk of needs escalating at the same time as ensuring children and young people's best outcomes are achieved.

15. The number of children in mainstream schools in Leicestershire with an Education and Health Care Plan (EHCP) was 2,252 in the Autumn 2022 school census. This is 111 lower than the Summer 2022 census (2,363). The Autumn term 2022 school census EHCP numbers are the highest for an Autumn term since 2017, when the phasing in of the 2014 SEN Code of Practice changes was completed.
16. The number of children in mainstream schools in Leicestershire without an EHCP but in receipt of SEN Support was 12,077 in the Autumn 2022 school census. This is 127 lower than the Summer 2022 census (12,204). The Autumn term 2022 school census SEN support numbers are the highest for an Autumn term since the completion of the phasing in of the 2014 SEN Code of Practice changes in 2016.

### **People are safe in their daily lives**

17. The number of first-time entrants to the criminal justice system (aged 10-17) for quarter 2 2022/23 was 15. This is a decrease on the same period the previous year (18).
18. Reoffending for young offenders for quarter 1 2022/23 was 0.53. This is an increase on the same period the previous year (0.17).
19. There were no instances of the use of custody for young people (10-17) in quarter 2 2022/23. This is unchanged from the same period the previous year.

### **Help every child to get the best possible start in life**

#### **Early years**

20. In the Autumn Term 2022, 92.2% of eligible two-year-olds took up their Funded Early Education Entitlement (FEEE). This is an increase from the summer term (80.7%). For three-year-olds, the figure was 94.5%, an increase over the previous term (92.6%). Overall, 96.5% of eligible two- and three-year-olds took up their FEEE in high-quality provision, an increase on the summer term (95.6%).

### **Help every child to have access to good quality education to ensure they achieve their maximum potential**

21. The percentage of primary schools rated Good or Outstanding was 90.7% at the end of quarter 3. This is 0.9% lower than quarter 2 2022 (91.6%). This figure is within the third quartile of local authorities.
22. The percentage of secondary schools rated Good or Outstanding was 75.6% at the end of quarter 3. This is unchanged since quarter 1 2022. This figure is within the third quartile of local authorities.
23. The number of children Electively Home Educated (EHE) was 911 at the end of Q3. There has been an increase (6.5%) in the number of cases since the end of Q1 (855 students), although, this is to be expected as more families decide to go

down the home education route at the start of the academic year. This is for the number of different reasons, for example, students not obtaining a place at their school of choice or not settling well at their new schools.

24. Compared to the end of Q3 2021 (818 students), there has been a 11.4% increase and a 19.2% increase since Q3 2020 (764 students).
25. The overall increase on numbers follows the national trend of an increasing EHE population. The Association of Directors of Children's Services complete an annual survey which includes 124 of the 152 local authorities nationally responding with data on their EHE cohort. In November 2021, they published their latest findings which suggested that the EHE population in the UK had increased by 7% in comparison to October 2020 and an increase of 34% since October 2019.
26. Leicestershire figures follow the national trend of increasing number since 2019 with its cohort at the end of quarter 3 2022/23 increasing by 48.8% since quarter 3 2019.
27. The trend has been driven by two factors during this period: firstly, having experienced a period of enforced home schooling, some parents have opted for EHE as a lifestyle choice and have chosen to continue this even when schools reopened. The second factor has been ongoing health concerns which could be for the child, vulnerable parents, or general safety concerns. The numbers will continue to be monitored closely.
28. All final 2022 School educational performance outcomes that enable benchmarking have been released by the Department for Education. Due to the disruption to the standard performance reporting between the 2020 and 2021 exam years, comparisons to a previous period will be made against 2019 performance data.
29. The final Foundation Stage Profile performance data for 2022 was released by the Department for Education on 24th November 2022. The percentage of pupils achieving a 'Good level of development' was 67.6%. This performance is within the first quartile nationally. This is the first national statutory collection of data since the 2021/22 early years foundation stage (EYFS) reforms were introduced in September 2021, therefore it is not possible to make direct numeric performance comparisons to previous years. In 2019, under the previous EYFS assessment framework, performance in relation to this measure was in the second quartile. The performance of Free School Meal eligible pupils is within the third quartile nationally for this measure (47.1%) and was 20.5% below the performance for all pupils.
30. The final Key Stage 2 performance data for 2022 was released by the Department for Education on 15 December 2022. The percentage of pupils achieving the expected standard or above in Reading, Writing and Mathematics in 2022 was 62.1%, which is 5% lower than in 2019 (67.1%). This performance is within the first quartile nationally, but the lowest for Leicestershire since 2017. For this measure, the performance of Free School Meal eligible pupils (40.1%) was within the third quartile nationally, this was 20% lower than the performance for

all pupils. Special Educational Needs (SEN) support and SEN EHCP pupils are within the second quartile nationally for this measure.

31. The final Key Stage 4 performance data for 2022 was released by the Department for Education on 2nd February 2023. The Progress 8 performance for all pupils, Free School Meal eligible, SEN support and SEN EHCP pupils is within the second quartile nationally. This represents an improvement in the relative performance in comparison to the last reported performance of a comparable nature in 2019.
32. At the end of quarter 2 (December 2022) 0.7% of young people (16-17) in Leicestershire were not in education, employment or training (NEET). This is a slight increase over the end of the previous quarter (0.6%, September 2022).

### **Conclusion**

33. The report provides a summary of performance at the end of quarter 3 2022/23, covering the period October to December 2022.
34. Details of all metrics (reflecting any changes in indicators for 2022/23) will continue to be monitored on a regular basis throughout the year and any subsequent changes will be notified in future reports.

### **Background Papers**

None.

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

None.

### **Equalities Implications**

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

### **Human Rights Implications**

36. There are no human rights implications arising from this report.

### **Appendix**

Children and Family Services Department Performance Dashboard for Quarter 3, 2022/23

### **Officers to Contact**

Jane Moore, Director – Children and Families Service

Tel: 0116 305 2649  
Email: [Jane.Moore@leics.gov.uk](mailto:Jane.Moore@leics.gov.uk)

Sharon Cooke, Assistant Director – Children’s Social Care  
Tel: 0116 305 5479  
Email: [Sharon.Cooke@leics.gov.uk](mailto:Sharon.Cooke@leics.gov.uk)

Emma Jones, Business Partner – Business Intelligence Service  
Tel: 0116 305 7526  
Email: [Emma.j.Jones@leics.gov.uk](mailto:Emma.j.Jones@leics.gov.uk)

Alex Lea, Senior Research and Insight Manager – Business Intelligence Service  
Tel: 0116 305 6803  
Email: [Alex.Lea@leics.gov.uk](mailto:Alex.Lea@leics.gov.uk)