

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – PERFORMANCE REPORT

OCTOBER 2015

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

The purpose of this report is to provide the Board with the most up to date performance overview in relation to Children in Care and to highlight results from April 2015 to September 2015. Performance commentaries have been provided by the service.

Reference	Indicator	Statistical Neighbour Average	Target 15/16	Out-turn 14/15	Apr 15	May 15	Jun 15	Q1	Jul 15	Aug 15	Sep 15	Q2	YTD	Raw numbers	Service commentary
CC-1 (E)	Number of children in care (as at) (rate per 10,000)	784 (93.8)	575 (90)	573 (89.7)	577 (90.4)	580 (90.8)	589 (92.2)		588 (92.1)	596 (93.3)	601 (94.1)		601 (94.1)		<p>Demand for Social Care services remains high with requests for support, referrals and re-referrals continuing to increase. Included in this are requests for children to become Looked After by Nottingham City. The increase in the number of children coming into care (or becoming Looked After) is a trend mirrored nationally. This trend is reflected through our current Statistical Neighbour Average (SNA) of 784 children in care (CiC). Our aspiration is to perform significantly better than SNA and as a result, we have set an ambitious out-turn target of 575 children in care for the year 2015/16. Despite this target being set significantly lower than the SNA, based on our 2014/15 performance, this target is achievable, providing wider socio economic factors and pressures remain stable.</p> <p>Year To Date (YTD) figures show that there are 601 children in care. Work is underway to reduce this figure by exiting children from care via permanent outcomes (e.g. adoptions orders, special guardianship orders and child arrangement orders), as well as preventing admissions into care when it safe to do so.</p>
CC - 1a (E)	The number of children discharged as a result of a Permanent Outcome (SGO/Child Arrangement Order/Adoption Order)	88	75	116	4	5	7	16	6	14	8	28	44		<p>There has been a 75% increase in performance during Q2 when compared to Q1 with 28 children being discharged from care as a result of a permanent outcome. At half through the year, we are over half way to achieving the target set for 2015/16 (with the YTD figure and target being 44 and 75, respectively).</p>
CC-8 (NI62)	The percentage of Children in Care that have had three or more placement moves in the previous 12 months	11.1%	11.1%	10.5%				11.2%				10.2%		61 of 597	<p>This indicator focuses on short term placement stability of CiC. Figures over the last quarter have improved slightly with a greater proportion of the children experiencing placement stability. Current performance is marginally (0.9%) better than this year's target and the SNA.</p>
CC-9 (NI63)	The percentage of Children in Care who have lived in the same placement for at least 2 years	66%	66%	66%	65.9%	65.7%	66.5%		69.3%	68.0%	68.6%		68.6%	116 of 169	<p>Performance has remained stable for this indicator. YTD figures show performance is 2.6% above that of the SNA, our 2015/16 target and our 2014/15 out-turn.</p>
CC-10 (R)	The percentage of Children in Care reviewed within the appropriate timescale	Not published	97%	98%	95.8%	98.4%	98.6%	98.6%	98.8%	98.7%	99.0%	99.4%	99.0%	881 of 890	<p>Performance for CiC (or Looked After Children) reviews remains consistently strong with YTD figures showing that 99% of reviews are held within timescale. This means the vast majority of our children are offered the opportunity influence their care plan in a meaningful and timely way. Current performance is slightly above both the target set for 2015/16 and the 2014/15 out-turn.</p>
CC-11 (R)	The percentage of reviews where the child participated	Not published	90%	94%	96.9%	95.1%	93.5%	93.7%	94.2%	94.0%	94.4%	95.0%	94.4%	670 of 710	<p>YTD figures show that performance is 4% above that of this year's target and is in line with our 2014/15 out-turn. The performance shows that so far this year, 94% of children in care have been supported to influence their care plan in a meaningful and timely way.</p>

CC-12 (E)	The percentage of Children in Care with an up-to-date health assessment	Not published	90%	85.9%	83.2%	84.0%	84.2%		87.1%	82.8%	83.3%	83.3%	443 of 532	<p>The health assessment is an important tool in ensuring that children's overall health care needs are met and their well-being is promoted. It is therefore important that assessments are completed and are up-to-date. Ensuring that this happens remains a challenge but progress is being made.</p> <p>The YTD figure shows that we are currently underperforming by 6.7% when compared to our 2015/16 target. Factors that have contributed to our current performance include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - delays in arranging appointments for children placed outside of Nottingham City boundaries - noncompliance of young people to attend appointments once they have reached 16 years old - capacity issues within the Children in Care Health Team still remain although the impact that this has on performance has reduced this financial year - there continues to be an issue with missed appointments <p>Remedial action to address issues in performance is discussed during regular meetings between the Children in Care service and health colleagues.</p>	
CC-13 (E)	The percentage of Children in Care with up-to-date dental checks	Not published	90%	76.5%	86.7%	81.1%	76.2%		77.0%	75.6%	82.5%	82.5%	439 of 532	<p>Performance in respect to dental checks at the end of Q2 is the highest it has been since the first month of this (financial) year. Although our current performance is 7.5% below our target for 2015/16, our performance this year, month on month, has been better or on par with our 2014/15 out-turn. The issues of missed appointments and noncompliance of young people aged 16 years and over have contributed to our performance.</p> <p>However a contributor to the figure reported are issues relating to inputting data. A recent push in data inputting and shift to data being inputted by business support colleagues has led to the improvement in performance recoded in September.</p>	
CC-14 (E)	The percentage of Children in Care with an up-to-date Strength and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ)	Not published	90%	70.8%	71.2%	71.1%	66.2%		73.0%	70.0%	64.9%	64.9%	253 of 390	<p>The indicator focuses on the timely and regular completion of SDQs. SDQs are used to help gauge the emotional well-being of young people.</p> <p>Performance in this area continues to be an issue. Current performance is 25.1% below target. A review of performance indicated that more activity in respect to reminding carers of their responsibility to complete SDQs, chasing outstanding SDQs and inputting scores would lead to improvements. As a result, capacity to undertake these tasks has been recently created in within business support. It is anticipated that action will lead to an increase in performance.</p>	
CC-19 (R)	The percentage of applicable (Eligible, Relevant and Former relevant) young people with a Pathway Plan started within the last 6 months.	Not published	97%	84.1%	86.1%	98.0%	97.6%		95.0%	92.6%	92.0%	92.0%	299 of 325	<p>There has been an increase in performance but targets are not yet met. There will be continued scrutiny of quality and performance via monthly reports provided with Service Manager oversight. Plans are underway to amend E-Pathway Plan to ensure it focuses on outcomes and is not such a lengthy document as identified in recent Ofsted Inspection.</p>	
CC-31(R)	The percentage of applicable (Eligible, Relevant and Former relevant) young people with a Pathway Plan completed/authorised in the preceding 6 months	Not published	97%	62.9%	64.2%	88.3%	78.6%		78.3%	77.4%	75.7%	75.7%	246 of 325	<p>Team capacity and instability of staff have contributed to our under performance (of 21.3%) when compared to our 2015/16 target. Ongoing recruitment is being undertaken to address this issue. It should be noted that YTD figures show an improvement in performance when compared to our 2014/15.</p>	
CC-25 (E)	The percentage of Children in Care with a completed Personal Education Plan (PEP)	Not published	95%	95%	94%	95%	94%		94%	94%	94%	94%	339 of 356	<p>The Virtual School Head and the Virtual school PEP co-ordinator continue to hold regular meetings with the Children In Care management team to discuss the PEP completion rate, identify where PEPs are incomplete and discuss remedial action. This has helped keep performance in line with our 2015/16 target.</p>	
CC-29 (R)	The percentage of placements that are over 20 miles from Nottingham	10.3%	To monitor	16%				15.0%				16.3%	16.3%	89 of 601	<p>Current performance is in line with our 2014/15 out-turn. Pressures on placement availability impact on this indicator.</p>

CL-7 (R)	The percentage of care leavers in suitable accommodation (17-21 years old)	New measure	80%	New measure				90.6%				88.4%	89.5%	119 of 133	It should be acknowledged that it is not possible to establish the accommodation status of some our care leavers as they are no longer engaged with the Authority's leaving care service. This has an impact on the performance recorded. However, YTD figures indicate that we are performing above our 2015/16 target. This can be attributed to our close working relationship with Nottingham City Homes (NCH) and the robust protocol is in place with NCH to prevent eviction and homelessness.
CL-8 (R)	The percentage of care leavers in employment, education or training (17-21 years old)	New measure	55%	New measure				64.1%				58.0%	60.9%	81 of 133	It should be acknowledged that it is not possible to establish the employment, education or training (EET) status of some our care leavers as they are no longer engaged with the Authority's leaving care service. This has an impact on the performance recorded. Despite this, current performance is 5.9% above our 2015/16 target. Performance overall, has improved as a result of the introduction of the Employability Personal Advisor who is tasked with linking care leavers with employment, education and training opportunities. Recently a £2,500 grant was secured through this post. The grant will support young people access physical activity opportunities.