

## CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD – PERFORMANCE REPORT

**19<sup>th</sup> May 2014**

### CONTEXT

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 October 2013 to March 2014. Future reports will be presented to the Board bi-annually.

### PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

From 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013, a new set of performance measures and outcomes have been reported. These measures are in line with Statutory and Inspection requirements. Where appropriate both numbers and percentages have been given to help provide context.

Whilst performance in many areas has improved, significant focus is being placed on areas where performance is weaker. Robust action plans, monitored by senior management, are being implemented to drive performance improvements.

### PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Reference	Indicator	Target / previous out-turn	Oct	Nov	Dec	Q3	Jan	Feb	Mar	Q4	YTD	Raw numbers	Service commentary
<b>Children In Care</b>													
CC-1 (E)	Number of children in care (as at) (rate per 10,000)	Mar 13 = 561 (89) Mar 12 = 541 (87)	581 (92.2)	579 (91.9)	574 (91.1)		571 (90.6)	572 (90.8)	584 (92.7)		584 (92.7)		Demand for Social Care services remains high with requests for support, referrals and re-referrals increasing. This includes the number of requests for children to become Looked After by Nottingham City, with a high demand for children requiring placements. This mirrors the national picture of increased demand. Our target and aspiration is to perform significantly better than Statistical Neighbour (SN) offering permanency and security to children in care (CiC). The latest Statistical First Release on Looked After Children and Adoption shows that our rate of CiC is in line with statistical neighbours. Performance matches SN but is poor against NCC target.
CC - 1a (E)	The number of children discharged as a result of a Permanent Outcome	Mar 13 = 67 (SGOs and Adoptions)	4	15	0	16	14	9	3	26	85		The number of children discharged as a result of an Adoption Order is currently 42. The number of Special Guardianships (SGO) since April 2013 is 43 and creative packages are continually being implemented to secure permanency for children.
CC-8 (NI62)	The percentage of Children in Care that have had three or more placement moves in the previous 12 months	Mar 13 = 13.0% Mar 12 = 11.5%  Target 13/14 = 10%				12.8%				12.9%		76 of 588	<p>This indicator focuses on short term placement stability of the CiC. While the percentage of children who have experienced three or more moves is (2.9%) than our target for 2013/14, it should be acknowledged that factors that impact on our performance are complex and that a higher percentage than that intended can be as a result of, or can result in better outcomes for our CiC. Factors include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- During the past year there has been a conscious effort to move children outside of Nottingham city back to within a 20 miles radius of Nottingham city centre when it is appropriate.</li> <li>- Positive placement moves associated with the Children in Care Project.</li> <li>- Positive placement moves associated with the de-escalation of our most complex children in care i.e. the movement of children from placements offering intensive care packages to more mainstream placements.</li> <li>- Positive placement moves associated with children moving into adoption placements and other permanency options.</li> <li>- Positive placement moves associated with children moving back to their birth families under the Placement with Parents regulations and connected persons.</li> <li>- There is limited availability across all placement type which at restricts choice and matching sometime leads to a placement move.</li> <li>- Moves which are part of the child's Care Plan, for example children moving from an assessment unit to a settled care bed within the same provider.</li> </ul>

CC-9 (NI63)	The percentage of Children in Care who have lived in the same placement for at least 2 years	Mar 13 = 68% Mar 12 = 73.1%  Target 13/14 = 66%	64.2%	63.9%	65.5%		62.3%	63.0%	63.2%		63.2%	103 of 163	See commentary for CC-8 (NI63) for factors that have influenced performance.
CC-10 (R )	The percentage of Children in Care reviewed within the appropriate timescale	Mar 13 = 95% Mar 12 = 95%  Target 13/14 = 97%	97.4%	97.3%	97.4%	96.6%	97.5%	97.5%	97.6%	98.1%	97.6%	1660 of 1701	Performance for CiC reviews remains consistently strong with over 97% of reviews being held within timescale. Performance levels are in line with the previous year and are performing at target.
CC-11 (R )	The percentage of reviews where the child participated	Mar 13 = 93% Mar 12 = 86%  Target 13/14 = 94%	93.4%	95.3%	95.1%	94.0%	95.5%	95.8%	95.5%	93.1%	95.5%	1190 of 1246	Performance is consistent for children in care participation in reviews. The performance target for this indicator has been surpassed.
CC-12 (E)	The percentage of Children in Care with an up-to-date health assessment	Mar 13 = 80% Mar 12 = 77.6%  Target 13/14 = 91%	68.3%	66.5%	67.3%		69.0%	73.1%	71.8%		71.8%	370 of 515	Children's day to day health needs are being met by their carers and in placements but the overall annual assessment is an important tool in ensuring that children's overall well-being is fully assessed and promoted.  Capacity issues within the Children in Care Health Team during the past year have negatively impacted on our performance. There is now increased capacity of doctors and nurses within our health team and it is anticipated that this will lead to an increase in performance.  Health assessments remain a challenge however following Service Manager oversight there is expected to be an improvement.  Scrutiny of the children's health shows the majority of children have medicals requested and / or reports awaiting as dates can not be inputted until the report is received.  In addition, further training of Business Support staff will improve performance.
CC-13 (E)	The percentage of Children in Care with up-to-date dental checks	Mar 13 = 83% Mar 12 = 83%  Target 13/14 = 90%	73.0%	71.0%	70.7%		77.6%	84.1%	82.5%		82.5%	425 of 515	See commentary for CC-12.
CC-14 (E)	The percentage of Children in Care with an up-to-date Strength and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ)	Mar 13 = 83% Mar 12 = 90%  Target 13/14 = 73%	75.7%	77.6%	78.0%		78.7%	80.7%	84.1%		84.1%	296 of 352	Additional resources have been secured to support the CAMHS Children Looked After Team with a new psychiatrist who joined the team in October. This post is responding to the young people who have higher than average SDQ scores indicating that their emotional and psychological health may be poor.
CC-18 (R )	The number of children/young people remanded into the Authorities care	New measure introduced 13/14				5				6	30		Introduced in the December 2012 the Legal Aid, Sentencing Punishment of Offenders (LASPO) Act now means whenever a court refuses bail to a child/young person (aged 10-17); the court is required to remand the child to local authority accommodation unless certain conditions are met, and in which case the court may instead remand the child to Youth Detention Accommodation. Every such child (whether remanded to Youth Detention Accommodation or to local authority accommodation) will now be treated as Looked After by their designated local authority.  The number of young people entering care this way is being monitored and there are regular discussions between the YOT and Safeguarding teams to ensure that vulnerable young people are well supported.
CC-19 (R )	The percentage of <b>eligible</b> young people with a Pathway Plan started within the last 6 months (Eligible : 16/17 year olds in care)	Target 13/14 = 97%	29.2%	79.4%	82.6%		88.1%	96.2%	94.4%		94.4%	102 of 108	There has been a significant improvement in Q3 and Q4 with Head of Service / Service Manager oversight and direction. Operation target for performance is 100% but target will be brought in line with PEP
CC-22 (R )	The percentage of <b>eligible</b> young people with a Pathway Plan completed/authorised (Eligible: 16/17 year olds in care)	Target 13/14 = 97%	26.9%	53.4%	54.5%		68.3%	77.9%	86.1%		86.1%	93 of 108	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.

CC-25 (E)	The percentage of Children in Care with a completed Personal Education Plan (PEP)	Mar 13 = 92% Mar 12 = 98%  Target 13/14 = 95%	89%	92%	89%		91%	94%	93%		93.0%	297 of 318	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 and identify where PEPs are incomplete. Under the latest Department for Education conditions of offer the Virtual School head will expect all schools to demonstrate how they will use the new Pupil Premium funding to close the gap for all LAC pupils. One to one tuition for pupils in Year 6 and Year 11 will continue over the summer term, with an increased focus on analysis of impact.	
<b>Care Leavers</b>														
CL-1 (R)	The percentage of care leavers in suitable accommodation at 19 years old	Mar 13 = 92% Mar 12 = 80%  Target 13/14 = 90%					90.9%				100%	89.6%	YTD = 69 of 77	This continues to improve and a robust protocol is in place with Nottingham City Homes to prevent eviction and homelessness. Nottingham's performance is now higher than our statistical neighbourhood group. Targeted activity will be undertaken in relation to Care leavers accessing Education, Training and Employment to further improve performance.  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.
CL-2 (R)	The percentage of care leavers in suitable accommodation at 20 years old	New measure introduced 13/14  Target 13/14 = 85%					95.8%				86.7%	83.3%	YTD = 55 of 66	See above CL-1
CL-3 (R)	The percentage of care leavers in suitable accommodation at 21 years old	New measure introduced 13/14  Target 13/14 = 80%					86.7%				86.2%	77.0%	YTD = 57 of 74	See above CL-1
CL-4 (R)	The percentage of care leavers in employment, education or training at 19 years old	Mar 13 = 48% Mar 12 = 61%  Target 13/14 = 55%					36.4%				75.0%	45.5%	YTD = 35 of 77	The current economic situation and youth unemployment is having a negative impact. A multi-agency approach targeted at Care leavers/Children in Care has resulted in an increase in Care leavers accessing Training, Education and Employment including a robust recruitment to Apprenticeships has seen a rise in performance.  It should be acknowledged that it is not possible to establish the 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.
CL-5 (R)	The percentage of care leavers in employment, education or training at 20 years old	New measure introduced 13/14  Target 13/14 = 55%					33.3%				53.3%	31.8%	YTD = 21 of 66	See above CL-4
CL-6 (R)	The percentage of care leavers in employment, education or training at 21 years old	New measure introduced 13/14  Target 13/14 = 55%					33.3%				58.6%	40.5%	YTD = 30 of 74	See above CL-4