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**YEAR END PERFORMANCE REPORT 2015/16**

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**SUMMARY REPORT**

**Purpose of the Report**

1. To provide Members with the year end performance for 2015/16 against the councils top level scorecard for children's services.

**Summary**

2. Members were presented with the Quarter 3 (October – December 2015) Performance Report at this Scrutiny Committee in February. The year-end information has now been compiled and has informed the DfE Review and been presented to the Improvement Board. This demonstrates that many of the issues identified at the time of the Ofsted Inspection around delays in recording and reporting information have now been addressed.
3. The top level scorecard has been designed to give a simple view of the key performance measures that enable an understanding of how consistently social work is happening on the ground. The quality of work is picked up separately through the audit programmes.
4. Some of the key performance indicators within this report have already been proposed for consideration as part of the work programme Members have developed for this scrutiny committee and will provide with the opportunity to as an integral aspect as they drill down to investigate particular topics.

**Recommendation**

5. It is recommended:-
  - a) That Mmbers note the report and consider progress against performance indicators shown to inform the scrutiny work programme for the year.

**Suzanne Joyner**  
**Director of Children and Adults Services**

Background Papers  
Darlington Children's Services Ofsted Inspection Report

S17 Crime and Disorder	This report has no implications for Crime and Disorder
Health and Well Being	This report has no direct implications to the Health and Well Being of residents of Darlington.
Carbon Impact	There are no issues which this report needs to address.
Diversity	There are no issues relating to diversity which this report needs to address
Wards Affected	The impact of the report on any individual Ward is considered to be minimal.
Groups Affected	The impact of the report on any individual Group is considered to be minimal.
Budget and Policy Framework	This report does not represent a change to the budget and policy framework.
Key Decision	This is not a key decision.
Urgent Decision	This is not an urgent decision
One Darlington: Perfectly Placed	The report contributes to the Sustainable Community Strategy in a number of ways through the involvement of Members in contributing to the delivery of the eight outcomes.
Efficiency	The Performance Report is integral to scrutinising and monitoring children's services efficiently (and effectively), however this report does not identify specific efficiency savings.

## MAIN REPORT

### Information and Analysis

6. During 2016, we established a top level scorecard of priority performance indicators for 2015/16, aligned to delivery of the Children's Services Improvement Plan. Initial targets were set for these indicators based on knowledge of performance, comparison with statistical neighbours and projection of future performance at the time. With hindsight and improved data quality, it is evident that some of the targets set at the time were overly challenging and significantly out of line with the performance of similar councils.
7. Over the past several months, we have focussed on improving the reporting and data quality on these key indicators whilst driving achievements of targets through regular performance clinics involving heads of service, operational and team managers. Progress on these indicators is shown in the following pages.
8. Following the DfE Review in May, it was agreed to refocus the Improvement Plan for the next stage of our improvement journey. This will result in changes to the top level indicators during the year to ensure that it effectively covers each aspect of the child's journey through the system and picks up changes, for example through reviewing the early help model.
9. Whilst many of the indicators contained within the report focus on the timeliness of activity, the actions within the Improvement Plan and outcomes from the Audit Programme correspondingly drive the improvement in our approach and overall quality of social work.