

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

25 April 2022

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS QUARTER 3 2021/22

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide Members with an update on performance against key performance indicators.

Summary

2. This report provides mid-year performance information (October 2021 – December 2021) in line with an indicator set agreed by Monitoring and Coordination Group on 2 July 2018, and subsequently by Scrutiny Committee Chairs.
3. It is suggested monitoring focuses on issues and exceptions, and relevant Assistant Directors will attend the meeting to respond to queries raised by the committee regarding the performance information contained within this report.
4. Where indicators are reported annually, quarterly updates will not be available.

Where are we performing well?

5. 10.8% of the children referred, by the end of Q3 2021/22, have been a re-referral to Children's Social Care within 12 months of a previous referral. This is positively below the internal target of 18%.
6. 100% of children with a Child Protection (CP) plan, and 100% of Children in Care (CiC) have an allocated social worker.
7. During Q3 2021/22 no child has ceased to be subject to a CP plan who had been subject to the plan for 2 or more years, we continue to positively perform below our target of 5%.
8. 92.1% of Initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPC) were held within 15 working days from the strategy meeting / section 47 being initiated, excluding transfer-in conferences, during Q3 2021/22.
9. 100.0% of Children in Care (CiC) were allocated to a qualified social worker. 98.4% of the reviews have been completed within required timescales by the end of Q3 2021/22.
10. The number of Children in Care (CiC) was 271 by the end of December 2021, which was a reduction when compared with the number of children at the end of December 2020 (284). Work continues to safely reduce the number of children coming into care.

11. 89.8% of statutory CiC visits were completed within timescale during Q3 2021/22. This is in line with the target of 90%.
12. 10.0% of our Children in Care, as of December 2021, have had 3 or more placements within the previous 12 months. This performance is in line with our internal target of 10%.
13. 73.5% of our Children in Care aged under 16 (who have been looked after for at least 2.5 years) have been in their current placement continuously for at least 2 years. This performance is positively above our internal target of 68%.
14. 6.1% of our Children in Care have been placed 20 or more miles away from home as of December 2021. This is a positive performance and below target of 10%.
15. 82.7% of children due a review health assessment by December 2021 have had one completed. 80.4% of Children in Care, that were due a dental check assessment by December 2021 have had one completed.
16. 17.6% of Care Leavers were not in employment, education or training (NEET) at the end of December 2021, which is positivity below target of 30% and 100.0% were in suitable accommodation.

Where do we need to improve?

17. Social workers completed 80.0% of the C&F assessments within timescale during Q3 2021/22, which falls below our target of 90%, and is similar to the 85.4% completed in timescale for the same period last year.
18. 67.7% of referrals were screened and completed within 1 day by the end of Q3 2021/22, below the target of 90% and 7.7% of the referrals took over 3 days to complete. The additional time taken to carry out contact enquiries is ensuring that all information is complete, and that children and families are being offered the right service at the right time.
19. At the end of December 2021, the percentage of children becoming subject to a CP plan for a second or subsequent time within 2 years of the previous plan ending was 8.0%, above the 6% target, however this is a reduction from 9.8% as at the end of Q2 2021/22.
20. 82.3% of children received a statutory CP visit within 10 working days during Q3 2021/22. This is below the target of 90%.

Recommendation

21. It is recommended:
 - a) That performance information provided in this report is reviewed and noted, and relevant queries raised with the appropriate Assistant Director.

Chris Bell

Assistant Director of Childrens Services

Background papers

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

Sharon Raine Head of Performance and Transformation: Extension 6091

S17 Crime and Disorder	This report supports the Council's Crime and Disorder responsibilities
Health and Well Being	This report supports performance improvement relating to improving the health and wellbeing of residents
Sustainability	This report supports the Council's sustainability responsibilities
Diversity	This report supports the promotion of diversity
Wards Affected	This report supports performance improvement across all Wards
Groups Affected	This report supports performance improvement which benefits all groups
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	This report contributes to the Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) by involving Members in the scrutiny of performance relating to the delivery of key outcomes
Efficiency	Scrutiny of performance is integral to optimising outcomes.
Impact on Looked After Children and Care Leavers	This report may have an impact on their emotional and physical health, social development, education and future employment.