

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

31 October 2022

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS QUARTER 1 2022/23

Purpose of the Report

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

Summary

2. This report provides performance information (April 2022 – June 2022) 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. 79.6% of referrals were screened and completed within 1 day during Q1 2022/23. Although below the target of 90%, this is a continuing improvement when compared with previous quarters. A small number of referrals took over 3 working days to be completed in Q1 2022/23 (1.9%) which is an improvement on 5.6% for the same period last year and is within our threshold of 5%.
6. 16.1% of the children referred during Q1 2022/23 have been re-referred to Children's Social Care within 12 months of a previous referral, which is below the threshold of 18% and an improvement on the same period last year.
7. 100% of children with a Child Protection (CP) plan, and 100% of Children in Care (CiC) have an allocated social worker.
8. 100% of children with a Child Protection (CP) plan, and 98.8% of Children in Care (CiC) had their reviews completed within timescale.
9. 273 Children were in our care at the end of June 2022, excluding the unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (7), this is just above the number of Children in Care (CiC) in June 2021 (264) and below that in June 2020 (291). Work continues to safely reduce the number of children coming into care.

10. 25.0% of the children ceasing to be in our care did so due to return home to their parents, 20.0% had a Special Guardianship Order (SGO) / Child Arrangement Order (CAO) granted to a relative and 15.0% were adopted.
11. 89.1% of statutory CiC visits were completed within timescale during Q1 2022/23. This is in line with the target of 90%.
12. 10.4% of our Children in Care, as at June 2022, have had 3 or more placements within the previous 12 months which is in line with our internal target (10%).
13. 67.0% 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 as at June 2022.
14. 6.5% of our Children in Care have needed to be placed 20 or more miles away from home as of June 2022. This is a positive performance and below our target of 10%.
15. 19.6% of Care Leavers were not in employment, education, or training (NEET) which is positivity below target of 30% and 98.2% of care leavers were in suitable accommodation.
16. 60.7% of our care leavers were in training or employment (30.4% in full time, 30.3% in part time) as of June 2022, and 19.7% were engaging in education (5.4% of which are in studies beyond A level).

Where do we need to improve?

17. 79.0% of our C&F assessments were completed within timescale in Q1 2022/23. This is below Q1 2021/22 performance of 90.4% in timescale, however, that was with 58.3% less assessments needing to be completed as we continue to see a rise in assessments required.
18. 75.0% 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 Q1 2022/23. Darlington's performance has dipped this quarter, additional processes have been put in place to address this.
19. At the end of June 2022, 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 25.0%, above the 6% target, however, relates to 2 families.
20. At the end of June 2022, 8.3% of children ceased to be subject to a CP plan in Q1 2022/23 after being subject to the plan for 2 or more years. The plans had been confirmed as appropriately opened for this length of time and the families are now in a position where they can be confidently closed to CP and a CiN plan put in place.

21. 73.2% of children received a statutory CP visit within 10 working days during Q1 2022/23, with a further 14.3% of visits taking place 1 or 2 days outside this. This is below the target of 90%.
22. 28.8% of children due a health review during Q1 2022/23 and 19.2% due a dental check assessment have had one completed.

Recommendation

23. It is recommended:

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

James Stroyan
Group Director of People

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.