
CHILDREN'S SERVICES QUARTER 4 PERFORMANCE 2022/23

Reasons for the Report

1. The Cabinet Member responsible for Children's Services will introduce the Quarter 4 2022/23 performance report for Children's Services. This report will enable the Committee to assess the progress being made in improving outcomes for children in need and children looked after.

Performance reporting

2. The range of performance data relating to Children's Services is contained in **Appendix A** to this report. The following data is reported on:
 - The number of people supported through the Gateway (FAM KPI 01)
 - The number of people supported by the Family Help Team (FAM KPI 02)
 - The number of people supported by the Support4Families Team (FAM KPI 03)
 - Intervention Hub – Adolescent Resource Centre
 - Intervention Hub – Think Safe!
 - Contact/ Referrals to MASH and on Open cases
 - Contacts Received by Children's Services that progressed/ did not progress to an assessment
 - Percentage of Well-being Assessments completed within statutory timescales (CH/012)
 - Timeliness of Section 47s (completed in 10 working days) – data plus narrative
 - Number of children receiving Care & Support and being assessed
 - Number of children receiving Care & Support in receipt of Direct Payments

- Reviewing Hub – Step Downs
- Reviewing Hub – Step Ups
- Number of children on the Child Protection Register, registrations and de-registrations
- Child Protection registration by Category of Abuse as at 31 March 2023
- Number and percentage of re-registrations of children on Child Protection Register during the period and within 12 months from deregistration (CH/024)
- The percentage of Initial Core Groups meetings held on time (CH/028)
- The percentage of visits to children on the CPR held on time (CH/030)
- % Initial Child Protection Conferences on Time
- % Child Protection Review Conferences on Time
- The number /percentage of children reported where exploitation is a factor (CH/033)
- Looked After Starts, Ends and Total Number of Children Looked After
- Timeliness of Children Looked After Reviews
- Total CLA by Placement type – comparison between 30.06.2016 (baseline number 644) and 31.03.2023 (baseline number: 1,057)
- Percentage of children in regulated placements who are placed in Cardiff (CS LAC 58)
- The Percentage of looked after children who have had three or more placements during the year (CH/043)
- Percentage of Statutory visits held on time (CH/042)
- Number of Pathway Plans completed on time
- The total number of young people during the year where a personal adviser was allocated as required
- Sickness – Children’s Services
- Percentage of social worker vacancies in all teams (Staff 1)
- Net result of Social Workers starting and leaving Council
- YOS 1 The number of first-time entrants
- YOS 2 The percentage of children re-offending within six months of their previous offence
- YJS – The number of young people in receipt of a prevention service from the Youth Justice Service

3. In addition to the data reported in **Appendix A**, there are new Indicators, where data is currently under development and will be reported to a future meeting. These are in relation to Court Work.

Scope of Scrutiny

4. The scope of the scrutiny of this report is for the Committee Members to review the information provided to the Committee in **Appendix A** and to provide any comments, concerns or recommendations to the Cabinet Member.

Note from CYPSC Chair

5. During 2021/22, CYPSC Members held a number of open and very honest conversations with the Cabinet Member and Senior Officers at formal committee in relation to the demand on services and complexity of cases faced by Children's Services. This resulted in a positive and supportive working relationship. The CYPSC Chair has stated that he would wish for the relationship to continue in this way into the new administration. He acknowledges that robust scrutiny of data is part of this Committee's role, but requests that Members take the opportunity to discuss results and "get behind the figures" with the Cabinet Member and officers in a non-adversarial way, taking time to understand the pressures the Service faces, as well as act as a support in finding ways to improve matters going forward. The Committee will receive a detailed update on innovations being introduced in Children's Services in due course, which will aim to assist in tackling the complex issues faced by the Service.

Way Forward

6. At the meeting Councillor Ash Lister (Cabinet Member for Social Services (Children's)); and Sarah Skuse (Operational Manager, Locality Children's Services) will be in attendance to answer any questions Members may wish to ask.

7. Members may wish to review the information presented at the meeting and determine whether there are any comments, concerns or recommendations which they would like to pass on to the Cabinet Member and Director of Children's Services.

Legal Implications

8. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters there are no direct legal implications. However, legal implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to Cabinet/Council will set out any legal implications arising from those recommendations. All decisions taken by or on behalf of the Council must (a) be within the legal powers of the Council; (b) comply with any procedural requirement imposed by law; (c) be within the powers of the body or person exercising powers on behalf of the Council; (d) be undertaken in accordance with the procedural requirements imposed by the Council e.g. Scrutiny Procedure Rules; (e) be fully and properly informed; (f) be properly motivated; (g) be taken having regard to the Council's fiduciary duty to its taxpayers; and (h) be reasonable and proper in all the circumstances.

Financial Implications

9. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. However, financial implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. These financial implications will need to be considered before any changes are implemented.

Recommendation

The Committee is recommended to review the information provided in the report, appendix and at the meeting and provide any comments, concerns or recommendations to the Cabinet Member and Director of Children's Services.

DAVINA FIORE
Director of Governance and Legal Services
7 June 2023