

Report Title. Performance Indicators for Leaving Care and Asylum Service

Report of **The Director of the Children and Young People's Service**

Wards(s) affected: **All**

Report for: **Information and approval**

1. Purpose of the report

- 1.1. To inform the CPAC on proposed performance indicators for the Leaving care and asylum service as previously discussed. This report should be read in conjunction with the report entitled *Performance management data in children and families July 2009*

2. State link(s) with Council Plan Priorities and actions and /or other Strategies:

3.1 This proposal links to:

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- the priorities in the Children & Young People's Plan
- the JAR Action Plan
- the 'London Pledge for Children in Care'
- 'Care Matters: Time to deliver for children in care' Children and young persons Act (2008)
- Green Paper - Rights and responsibilities: developing our constitutional framework

3. Recommendations

- 3.1. That the Corporate parenting advisory committee approve the proposed performance indicators and that these are added to future performance reports
- 3.2. That the Committee note the intention to join the Leaving Care "benchmarking group" and request reports in future on the activities of this group

4. Reason for recommendation(s)

4.1. Corporate parenting is the collective responsibility of the whole Council. Councillors have a distinct role to play in ensuring that outcomes and life chances for children in care are maximised. .

4.2. Although there are a number of performance indicators and statutory requirements relating to Children in care there are limited requirements in relation to young people entitled to services under the Children (Care Leavers) Act 2000, the proposals outlined put in place local performance indicators for this group of young people

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5. Summary

5.1. Children and Young Persons Act (2008) fulfils commitments made in the White Paper, *Care Matters: Time for Change*. The proposals in this paper provide measures of how well we are delivering services to young people receiving leaving care services

6. Chief Financial Officer Comments

6.1. [click here to type]

7. Head of Legal Services Comments

7.1. These proposals provide a way of measuring our performance in meeting the commitments made in the White Paper, *Care Matters: Time for Change* much of which subsequently became legislation as the Children and young persons Act (2008).

8. Equalities & Community Cohesion Comments

8.1. Ethnic minority groups are over-represented within the 'in care' population. At the end of April 2009, there were over 500 children in care, of whom a significant number are from Black and ethnic minority communities. Children and young people who are, or have been in care, also experience multiple disadvantage.

9. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

9.1. Care Matters – Time for change

London Pledge for children and young people in care

Children in Care – Overview and Update March, 2009

Green Paper - Rights and responsibilities: developing our constitutional framework

UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Beyond article 12

The local implementation of the

UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

in England - CRAE

14 Proposal

That systems are put in place to collect and report the following data in relation to Leaving Care services;

All information relates unless otherwise stated to young people aged between the ages of 18 and 21

1. Young people with an up to date Pathway plan presented as a number and a percentage (young people aged 16-21). This is a regulatory requirement.
2. Young people who maintain contact with the service four times per year (number and percentage). This is a regulatory requirement.
3. Young people achieving a level 3 qualification or above (this is “A” level or equivalent) as a number and percentage aged 18 and 19. This builds on the reporting requirement for GCSEs
4. Number of young people attending higher education (above level3) as a percentage of those open to the service aged 18-21 and also as a number (to allow for young people aged over 21 still receiving support)
5. Young people open to the service aged 18-21 who become parents. This builds on the requirement to report on pregnancies under the age of 18
6. Percentage In suitable accommodation and in Education training or employment (open to the service on a specific date there are formal performance indicators relating to the 19th birthday, NI147 and NI148, but this is a very small cohort and can be distorted due to the small numbers)
7. Number of young people receiving a subject who have children who become the subject of a child protection plan or subject to Care Proceedings. This is a very small number but among our most vulnerable young people.

In consultation with the benchmarking group these performance indicators may be modified or added to.

15 Summary and Recommendations

These performance indicators provide a means for the local authority to measure its performance and progress in providing support to young people who receive “Leaving Care” services

It is recommended that the committee endorse their use